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On Top Of The News Email: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) website: [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com) Tel: +297 582-7800 Friday, September 26, 2014



President Barack Obama looks on as Attorney General Eric Holder speaks during the announcement that he will resign from his post, in the State Dining Room at the White House in Washington, Sept. 25, 2014. Holder plans to remain in office until a successor is confirmed.

(Doug Mills/The New York Times)

## US Attorney General Eric Holder Is Resigning

**MATT APUZZO  
MICHAEL D. SHEAR**  
© 2014 New York Times

**WASHINGTON** - Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. is resigning from his post, the Justice Department said Thursday. Holder will remain in office until a successor is nominated and confirmed.

Holder, the 82nd attorney general and the first African-American to serve in that position, had previously said he planned to leave office by the end of this year. Particularly in President Barack Obama's second term, Holder has been

the most prominent liberal voice of the administration, leading its push for same-sex marriage and voting rights. After the recent shooting of an unarmed black teenager by a white police officer, Holder volunteered to go to Ferguson, Missouri, as the

administration's emissary. A senior White House official said the president was "a long way" from announcing Holder's replacement. Frequently mentioned candidates for the job include Kathryn Ruemmler, the former White House counsel;

Gov. Deval Patrick of Massachusetts; Solicitor General Donald B. Verrilli Jr.; former Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm of Michigan; Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I.; and Loretta E. Lynch, the U.S. attorney in Brooklyn.

**Continued on page 3**



## As Ebola epidemic worsens;

# Sierra Leone increases strict quarantine restrictions

ADAM NOSSITER

© 2014 New York Times

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone -

Acknowledging that the Ebola epidemic sweeping Sierra Leone was worsening, officials here put hundreds of thousands more citizens under quarantine

Thursday, sealing off more than a quarter of the country and warning travelers not to get out of their vehicles in the districts under isolation.

Nearly all of the country's 14 districts are now under either total or partial quar-

antine, with more than 1 million people affected, as the disease advances into new areas. Infection rates have been rising in the capital, Freetown, a dangerous development because of the city's density. In an address to citizens late

Wednesday night, President Ernest Bai Koroma acknowledged that the new quarantine orders would "definitely pose great difficulties for our people," but he suggested that officials had little choice.

A Western diplomat here

called Koroma's newest restrictive order, coming after a three-day national lockdown that required every citizen to stay inside, "a mitigating measure reacting to a worsening situation." The diplomat added, "The numbers are not getting better."

The World Health Organization, echoing the government's increasingly worried tone, said Thursday that the "situation in Sierra Leone continues to deteriorate," noting a "sharp increase" in new Ebola cases in Freetown, rising to more than 80 for the week ending Sept. 21.

WHO said Thursday that there had been 597 deaths in the country and 1,940 Ebola cases, nearly a third of the total for the three West African countries most affected; the other two are Guinea and Liberia.

The numbers for Sierra Leone come from the Ministry of Health, and diplomats and international health officials say they are largely inaccurate, substantially underplaying the gravity of the situation on the ground.

"Even a 2-year-old child can look at them and see they don't add up," the Western diplomat here said.

WHO added a veiled caveat to the statistics in its latest report as in the preceding one, saying that they were "subject to change" because of "ongoing reclassification." Indeed cemetery workers here in the capital report that Ebola deaths far exceed what the government has so far acknowledged.

The streets of the capital remained uncharacteristically quiet and uncongested Thursday, three days after the government completed the national lockdown intended to "sensitize" citizens on Ebola's dangers and to root out hidden cases. Officials acknowledge that the economic slowdown because of Ebola continues to bite hard. □



James Hamilton, the chief grave-digger at King Tom Cemetery, which is bitterly resented by residents of the adjoining slum, called Kolleh Town by its residents, in Freetown, Sierra Leone. Acknowledging that the Ebola epidemic sweeping Sierra Leone was worsening, officials here put hundreds of thousands more citizens under quarantine Thursday, sealing off more than a quarter of the country. (Samuel Aranda/The New York Times)

## Obama warns of slow response to Ebola crisis

MARK LANDLER

SOMINI SENGUPTA

© 2014 New York Times

UNITED NATIONS - Seeking to speed the response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, President Barack Obama delivered a blunt warning Thursday at a high-level United Nations meeting devoted to the health crisis: The world is doing too little and moving too slowly.

Obama cited his announcement last week that the Pentagon will build a field hospital and treatment units in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone - along with the establishment of a U.N. emergency

mission to respond to the Ebola outbreak - as positive steps.

"But I want us to be clear: We are not moving fast enough. We are not doing enough," he said, adding, "If we move fast, even if imperfectly, that could mean the difference between 10,000, 20,000, 30,000 deaths versus hundreds of thousands or even a million deaths."

The initial U.S. response to the outbreak also came under criticism for being slow-footed and inadequate. But after announcing a new military command in Liberia that will build 17 Ebola treatment

centers across the region, Obama clearly felt emboldened to prod others. Obama and his fellow leaders heard a stark message from doctors on the front lines of the outbreak. They described wholesale panic, with desperate patients, angry family members, infection rates doubling every three weeks and the collapse of public health systems, which has led to outbreaks of other deadly diseases like malaria.

Joanne Liu, the international president of Doctors Without Borders, said her organization's hospital in Monrovia, the Liberian

capital, opened for only 30 minutes each morning, rapidly filling the handful of beds that opened overnight because of the deaths of patients.

"The sick continue to be turned away, only to return home and spread the virus among loved ones and neighbors," she said. "The isolation centers you have promised must be established now."

Doctors Without Borders is calling for a centralized system that can be tapped when an aid worker from abroad falls sick, so he or she can be evacuated safely no matter what the nationality. □



# US Attorney General Eric Holder Is Resigning

Continued from Front

The Justice Department said Holder finalized his plans to leave in an hour-long conversation with Obama at the White House during Labor Day weekend. Holder's resignation was formally announced Thursday afternoon at the White House.

Holder is a former federal prosecutor and Superior Court judge in Washington and served as the deputy attorney general under Attorney General Janet Reno.

A child of the civil rights era, Holder was shaped by images of violence in Selma, Alabama. He joined sit-ins at Columbia University, where protesters renamed an office after Malcolm X. He has frequently spoken in personal terms about civil rights, including about his experiences as a prosecutor in Washington and as a college student, when he was stopped by the police.

As attorney general, he has pushed to change what he sees as fundamental inequities in the criminal justice system.

He told prosecutors not to seek long sentences for low-level crime, and he pushed to eliminate those sentences for nonviolent drug crimes. He has joined with liberal Democrats and libertarian-minded Republicans to advocate for the most sweeping liberalization of sentencing laws since the beginning of the war on drugs.

Holder was among Obama's first nominees to the cabinet. The president-elect announced his selection on the same day he announced his choice of Hillary Rodham Clinton to be secretary of state.

The new attorney general quickly became an outspoken voice on issues that remained sensitive for a first-term president, especially race. While Obama only rarely confronted issues of race and discrimination, Holder emerged as a forceful advocate in those areas.

Holder was also a lightning rod, attracting partisan venom in Congress that might otherwise have been aimed more squarely at the president. He was attacked by critics in the wake of a botched gun program along the border with Mexico. Republican lawmakers in the House held Holder in contempt of Congress.

With Holder's imminent departure, Obama must now find a successor who can follow through on Holder's initiatives for the remainder of the president's second term.

Holder's successor will play a central role shaping the legal policies behind the war that Obama is waging in Iraq and Syria. The new attorney general will also have a big hand in helping enact new executive orders that Obama has announced, including a change in immigration policy that is expected after the midterm elections.

Finding someone who can win confirmation in the Senate may be a serious challenge for the president, especially if Republicans gain control of the chamber in November. Republicans are likely to try and hold up any nominee they perceive as too liberal, even if Democrats barely maintain their hold on the Senate.

Inside the Justice Department, many career prosecutors see Holder's push to prosecute terrorism suspects in criminal courts as his most enduring legacy. While the military tribunals at Guantánamo Bay have languished, the Justice Department has won several high-profile convictions and lengthy sentences in terrorism cases.

Through it all, Holder built one of the closest personal relationships with Obama of any members of the president's cabinet. Holder and his wife regularly spent their summer vacations on Martha's Vineyard at the same time that Obama did, with the two couples sharing dinner and spending time together on the island. □



Attorney General Eric Holder Jr. at the Department of Justice in Washington. Holder will resign his post, the Justice Department said Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014.

(Stephen Crowley/The New York Times)

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## FBI chief: Apple, Google phone encryption perilous

**KEN DILANIAN**

**AP Intelligence Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The FBI director on Thursday criticized the decision by Apple and Google to encrypt smartphones data so it can be inaccessible to law enforcement with a court order.

James Comey told reporters at FBI headquarters that U.S. officials are in talks with the two companies. He accused the companies of letting people put themselves beyond the law's reach. Comey cited child-kidnaping and terrorism cases as two examples of situations where quick access by authorities to information on cellphones can save lives. Comey did not cite specific past cases that would have been more difficult for the FBI to investigate under the new policies, which only involve physical access to a suspect's or victim's phone when the owner is unable

or unwilling to unlock it for authorities.

An FBI spokesman Thursday was not able to immediately clarify Comey's remarks. Both Apple and Google

announced last week that their new operating systems will be encrypted, or rendered in code, by default. Law enforcement officials could still intercept

conversations but might not be able to access call data, contacts, photos and email stored on the phone. Even under the new policies, law enforcement

could still access a person's cellphone data that has been backed up to the companies' online-storage services. They could also still retrieve real-time phone records and logs of text messages to see whom a suspect was calling or texting, and they could still obtain wiretaps to eavesdrop on all calls made with the phones. Comey's criticisms closely tracked complaints earlier this week by Ronald T. Hosko, a former FBI assistant criminal division director who wrote in The Washington Post that Google's and Apple's policies would have resulted in the death of a hostage in a recent North Carolina kidnapping. The newspaper subsequently corrected Hosko's claims after concluding that the new encryption systems would not have hindered the FBI's rescue of the kidnap victim in Wake Forest, □



**FBI Director James Comey speaks at the FBI Albany Field Office in Albany, N.Y. Comey on Thursday criticized the decision by Apple and Google to encrypt smartphones data so it can be inaccessible to law enforcement with a court order.**

(AP Photo/Mike Groll)

## Chief: 'no idea' where missing UK-born student is

**ALAN SUDERMAN**

**MICHAEL GRACZYK**

**Associated Press**

**CHARLOTTESVILLE, Virginia (AP)** — Investigators still have "no idea whatsoever" where a missing British-

born student might be despite the arrest of a fugitive who was seen walking off with her, Charlottesville's police chief said Thursday. The search for Hannah Graham has expanded to

rural areas outside the college town of 40,000, Chief Timothy Longo said. Meanwhile, Jesse Leroy Matthew Jr. agreed to be escorted to Virginia after fleeing to Texas, where he was arrest-

ed while camping out on a beach.

Matthew, a 32-year-old operating room technician at the university's hospital, is charged with "abduction with intent to defile" the 18-year-old sophomore, and should be back in Charlottesville by Saturday, Longo said. "Defile," in a legal context, means "sexually molest."

Matthew allegedly sped away after being questioned by police in Graham's disappearance. He made it as far as the Texas beach town of Gilchrist, 1,260 miles (2,027 kilometers) from home and about a seven-hour drive from the border.

Authorities had been concerned he would try to cross into Mexico, accord-

ing to a person familiar with the search who spoke with The

Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the person isn't authorized to publicly discuss the investigation.

"We seem to be the end of the road," said Galveston County Sheriff Henry Trochesset. "For us, it's not strange that someone like that would be arrested here."

The former college football player appeared in a very brief extradition hearing in Galveston, where he didn't speak other than to acknowledge his signature. He was caught the day before when a deputy responding to a suspicious person report found his tent and car. □

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## Career criminal gets life for 3 killings in 1980s



Samuel Little shouts as he is sentenced to three consecutive terms of life in prison without parole for murdering three women in the late 1980s, in a Los Angeles courtroom Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014. Little, 74, shouted out in court during his sentencing hearing that he didn't commit the killings and said he hoped for a new trial. His lawyer Michael Pentz, left, has filed a notice of appeal.

(AP Photo/Nick Ut)

**BRIAN MELLEY**  
Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Samuel Little was sentenced to three consecutive terms of life in prison without parole Thursday for murdering three women in the late 1980s during the crack cocaine scourge when several serial killers prowled the

streets of South Los Angeles and preyed on drug users and prostitutes. Little, 74, lured his victims with dope and then beat and strangled them for his sexual pleasure, prosecutors said. He dumped their half-naked bodies in garbage.

He was convicted earlier

this month of the murders of Carol Alford, 41, in 1987; and Audrey Nelson, 35, and Guadalupe Apodaca, 46, in 1989.

"I cannot imagine the horror that went through my sister's mind when the defendant was choking her to death," Sherri Ann Nelson told the court before Little

was sentenced. "I loved my sister dearly and she did not deserve to have her life taken like this."

Little attended the hearing in a wheelchair and interrupted family members of victims to say he didn't kill anyone. He also read a statement saying he had been convicted on lies from witnesses coached by liars and he hoped to get a new trial.

"The obsession with label-

ing me a serial killer without any proof," he said, "was a legal lynching."

Over 56 years, Little served less than 10 years in prison for crimes ranging from shoplifting to armed robbery and rape, authorities said. The murder convictions were firsts for Little, though he was arrested in two out-of-state killings in 1982. He was acquitted of murder in a Forest Grove, Florida, case. □

## Ferguson: Police chief apologizes in video to family

**JIM SALTER**  
Associated Press

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — The police chief in the St. Louis suburb where an officer fatally shot an unarmed 18-year-old last month released a video Thursday apologizing to the family and the community, acknowledging that Michael Brown's body remained in the street for too long after he was killed. The video featuring Ferguson Police Chief Tom Jackson was released by a public relations agency on the same day Brown's parents were in Washington press-

ing for a full federal investigation into the shooting, which provoked weeks of unrest. A state grand jury is considering whether criminal charges are warranted, but a decision isn't expected for several weeks.

Brown, who was black, was unarmed when he was fatally shot Aug. 9 during a confrontation with Officer Darren Wilson, who is white. Brown's body remained in the street for more than four hours. At the time, police said they needed the time to gather evidence from the street, Canfield

Drive, which is lined with apartment buildings.

"But it was just too long and I'm truly sorry for that," Jackson, dressed casually in a red polo shirt instead of his police uniform, said on the video.

"Please know that the investigating officers meant no disrespect to the Brown family, to the African-American community or the people of Canfield (Drive). They were simply trying to do their jobs."

To the Brown family, Jackson said: "I'm truly sorry for the loss of your son." □

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# Navajo to get \$554 million in settlement with US

**FELICIA FONSECA**

**Associated Press**

**FLAGSTAFF, Arizona (AP) —**

The Navajo Nation is poised to receive \$554 million from the federal government over mismanagement of tribal resources in the largest settlement of its kind for an American Indian tribe.

Much of the land on the 27,000-square-mile (69,930-square-kilometer) reservation has been leased for things like farming, grazing, oil and gas development, mining and housing. The leases once were largely overseen by the government, which mismanaged the revenue and failed to properly invest and account for it, according to the tribe.

U.S. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell is scheduled to visit Window Rock on Friday and formally recognize the settlement.

"The Navajo Nation is excited to host the signing ceremony on Friday," Tribal President Ben Shelly said in a statement. "The trust litigation has been a protracted battle and in the end, it was a victory for tribal sovereignty."

The tribe agreed to settle the case earlier this year but was awaiting signatures from federal agencies before the deal could be finalized. The Navajo Nation originally sought \$900 million when the lawsuit was filed in 2006.

Public meetings will be held to ask Navajos how they think the money should be spent, Navajo Nation Council Delegate Lorenzo Curley said. The first meeting is scheduled for October. Already, tribal members have suggested that it be set aside for future generations or used for business development, he said.

Andrew Sandler, one of the Navajo Nation's attorneys on the case, said the tribe has taken on much of the responsibility for leasing on its land. If further disputes arise with the federal government, the settlement outlines a process to resolve them.

"This was viewed as an appropriate and respectful settlement where the federal government acknowledged its responsibility and acted in an honorable



**Jaydon Yazzie, VanteJren Atene, and McKalette Clark ride home from Monument Valley High School on their horses in Monument Valley, Utah. The Navajo Nation is poised receive \$554 million from the federal government over mismanagement of tribal resources in the largest settlement of its kind for a single Native American tribe.**

(AP Photo/Rick Egan)

way," Sandler said. "It was a good result for all parties, and appropriate result for all parties, and it creates finality." Tribes across the country have filed more than 100 breach-of-trust cases against the U.S. government. The Navajo Nation settlement is the largest, exceeding the next highest amount by \$170

million, Sandler said.

The Interior Department said it is working to resolve cases with other tribes without going to trial. Since October 2010, the Obama administration has settled about 80 cases, totaling more than \$2 billion.

Sandler said the Navajo Nation should receive its money within 60 days.

The Navajo Reservation is larger than any single American Indian land base, covering sections of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. Almost two-thirds of the 300,000 Navajos live on the reservation that has some of the most iconic landscapes in the Southwest and is rich in natural resources. □

## US Bank refunding \$48M to customers

**MARCY GORDON**

**AP Business Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP) —**

U.S. Bank is refunding about \$48 million in the latest federal settlement by a major bank over improper billing for extra credit card products that customers didn't receive.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau announced the agreement Thursday with U.S. Bank, the sixth-largest bank by assets. The bank was ordered to repay about 420,000 customers who signed up for credit monitoring products and charged for services they didn't receive. In addition, the Minneapolis-based company is paying \$9 million in penalties to the CFPB and the Treasury Department agency that oversees national banks.

It was the latest in a string of sanctions against major banks over billing for credit card "add-ons," which are optional products or services sold to cardholders

at additional cost. Federal regulators have been examining the financial industry's marketing of add-ons for several years, after consumer complaints and bank inspections alerted them to the problems.

The director of the CFPB, Richard Cordray, has said the agency will "continue cleaning up this market as necessary to ensure that consumers are treated fairly." The biggest settlement over credit card add-ons was with Bank of America Corp., which agreed in April to pay \$772 million in fines and issue refunds to about 2.9 million customers. JPMorgan Chase & Co. paid about \$309 million in refunds and \$80 million in fines. The CFPB also has taken similar actions with American Express Co., Discover Financial Services and Capital One Financial Corp.

In the U.S. Bank case, the regulators said customers signed up for products

that promised to monitor their credit and alert them to potentially fraudulent transactions.

Customers were charged for the products as soon as they enrolled, without having given written authorization for the services. They were then billed for services they didn't receive, and unfairly charged interest and fees, the CFPB said.

The fees sometimes pushed customers above the credit limits on their accounts, which led to additional fees. Under the agreement with the CFPB, U.S. Bank is reimbursing customers the amount they paid for the products, as well as interest and any over-limit fees they incurred.

Customers "may have been under the impression" that their credit was being monitored for fraud and identity theft, but in fact those services either weren't being performed at all, or only partially, the agency said. □



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## US Financial Front:

# American durable goods fell 18.2 percent in August

**M. CRUTSINGER**  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Orders for long-lasting manufactured goods slumped in August as demand for commercial aircraft descended from record highs, but investment plans by businesses posted promising gains.

Durable goods orders fell 18.2 percent in August following a 22.5 percent jump in July, the Commerce Department reported Thursday. Both the big increase and the big drop were records. They reflected sharp swings in demand for commercial aircraft, an extremely volatile category that can skew overall results. Airplane orders fell 74.3 percent in August.

More importantly, however, a key category that serves as a proxy for business spending plans rose 0.6 percent.

The figure offers further evidence that manufacturing is a key source of strength for the economy this year. Economists expect businesses to boost spending as they expand and modernize their operations.

Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics, said that the plunge in overall orders simply reflected "a return to more normal or-

ders for Boeing after their massive July jump."

Orders for motor vehicles and parts also fell, declin-

ing 6.4 percent after a 10 percent increase in July.



In this Sept. 19, 2014 photo, workers assemble body armor in the sewing area in the Point Blank Body Armor factory in Pompano Beach, Fla. The Commerce Department released negative reports on August durable goods orders on Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014. (AP Photo/J Pat Carter)

The August dip was expected to be temporary given the strong sales gains automakers have enjoyed this year.

Excluding the volatile transportation category, orders would have risen 0.7 percent in August after a 0.5 percent drop in July.

Industries showing higher demand in August included machinery, up 0.7 percent, and electrical equipment and appliances, which rose 3.1 percent.

Paul Ashworth, chief U.S. economist at Capital Economics, said that the rise in core capital goods, the proxy for business investment, showed that business spending on equipment continued to expand at a healthy pace in the July-September quarter. □

## Applications for unemployment rise 12K to 293K

**C. S. RUGABER**  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The number of people seeking U.S. unemployment benefits increased last week after falling sharply two weeks ago. Despite the rise, the level of applications remains near pre-recession levels, a sign that hiring will likely remain healthy.

Weekly unemployment

benefit applications rose 12,000 to a seasonally adjusted 293,000, the Labor Department said Thursday. Yet the four-week average, a less volatile measure, fell for the second straight week to 298,500.

The figures are "very low ... close to all-time lows when measured as a share of payrolls," said Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at Pantheon Macroeconomics, in a research note. "We expect robust job growth in the months ahead." Two weeks ago, applications had plummeted to 281,000, near a 14-year low first reached in July. Over the past year, the four-week average for applications has fallen 7.1 percent. They climbed above 650,000 during the recession in 2009.

Applications are a proxy

for layoffs. Fewer applications indicate that employers are holding onto their workers, likely because they are more confident about the economy. It may also indicate they will boost hiring. The total number of people receiving benefits ticked up by 7,000 to 2.4 million. A year ago, 3.9 million people were receiving unemployment aid. □



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## Two Wisconsin families settle with GM over crash

**TOM KRISHER**

**AMY FORLITI**

**Associated Press**

**DETROIT (AP)** — As General Motors begins to compensate the victims of crashes tied to faulty ignition switches, this week more than a dozen families were given a choice: accept a settlement, presumably in the millions of dollars, or fight GM in a potentially lengthy court battle.

On Thursday, the families of two Wisconsin teenagers killed in an Oct. 24, 2006, crash of a Chevrolet Cobalt accepted cash offers from Kenneth Feinberg, the lawyer hired by GM to settle with victims on its behalf, according to Robert Hilliard, the families' attorney. They recently dropped a lawsuit GM in favor of seeking a settlement.

The crash that killed Natasha Weigel, who was 18, and Amy Rademaker, who was 15, was among the first blamed on the faulty switches. Despite evidence from that crash and others that the switches could cause the engine to stall and the air bags to be disabled, GM and federal regulators failed to make that connection for years.

GM finally recalled 2.6 million cars equipped with the switches early this year.

The girls' deaths are among 21 that Feinberg has deemed eligible for payments from GM. Feinberg began accepting wrongful death and injury claims on Aug. 1.

As of Wednesday, Feinberg had received 143 death claims, with the rest still being evaluated. The offers to



**This combination of undated family file photos shows, Natasha Weigel, left, and Amy Rademaker. The families of Natasha Weigel and Amy Rademaker, two Wisconsin teenagers killed in a car crash involving a faulty General Motors ignition switch have dropped their lawsuit against the company and are seeking a settlement, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2014. (AP Photo)**

the Wisconsin girls' families were two of 15 he made this week, his spokeswoman said.

GM has admitted that people within the company knew for years that the switches were defective yet failed to act to fix the problem. Even so, some victims' families would have a difficult time winning against the automaker in court because of the terms of GM's 2009 bankruptcy.

A bankruptcy judge ruled that GM is shielded from liability in crashes that occurred prior to July 2009. It's unclear how many small-car crash injuries or fatalities occurred prior to then. GM engineers knew of problems with the Cobalt switches as early as 2004. The first fatal crash the company learned of happened in 2005.

Amy Rademaker's mother, Margie Beskau, of Woodville, Wisconsin, said Wednesday she saw little chance of winning in court because her daughter

died before GM filed for bankruptcy. Both families accepted Feinberg's offers Thursday, Hilliard said. He would not disclose the amounts, although a day earlier he estimated the families would each be offered around \$3 million, based on the formula Feinberg uses to calculate compensation.

"It is a significant offer," he said. "The offer is within the realms of reasonableness." The Weigel family's offer was slightly higher because she lived for 11 days after the crash, Hilliard said.

The driver of the Cobalt, Megan Phillips, was also a plaintiff in the lawsuit. She survived the crash but suffered permanent brain damage. GM has determined that the switches can unexpectedly slip into the "accessory" position, shutting off the engine and disabling key features such as power-assisted steering, and the car's air bags. The data recorder in Phillips' 2005 Cobalt showed that

the ignition switch was in "accessory" at the time of the crash. A Wisconsin state trooper investigating the crash made the connection between the position of the switch and the air bags not deploying. Investigations into the handling of the recall — one commissioned by GM, and one from a Congressional committee — found that both the company and regulators were aware of the trooper's finding but largely ignored it for years.

Families of victims of crashes that happened after July 2009 may be willing to fight in court because GM can be found liable for death or injury. For example, the family of Brooke Melton, a Georgia nurse who died in a 2010 Cobalt crash, settled last year for \$5 million. But, citing what they say is new evidence that GM concealed the switch problem, the Meltons want the settlement overturned so they can seek a larger jury verdict. □



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# US-led airstrikes hit IS-held oil sites in Syria

**DIAA HADID**  
**Associated Press**

**BEIRUT (AP)** — U.S.-led airstrikes targeted Syrian oil installations held by the extremist Islamic State group overnight and early Thursday, killing at least 19 people as more families of militants left their key stronghold, fearing further raids, activists said.

The strikes aimed to knock out one of the militants' main revenue streams — black market oil sales that the U.S. says earn up to \$2 million a day for the group. That funding, along with a further estimated \$1 million a day from other smuggling, theft and extortion, has been crucial in enabling the extremists to overrun much of Syria and neighboring Iraq.

The United States and its Arab allies have been carrying out strikes in Syria for the past three days, trying to uproot the group, which has carved out a self-declared state straddling the border, imposed a harsh version of Islamic law and massacred opponents. The U.S. has been conducting air raids against the group in neighboring Iraq for more than a month.

On the ground, Syria's civil

war raged on unabated, with government forces taking back an important industrial area near Damascus from the rebels,

ing an unspecified deadly chemical substance. The Islamic State group is believed to control 11 oil fields in Iraq and Syria. The

mainly hitting small-scale refineries used by the militants in eastern Syria, Pentagon spokesman Rear Adm. John Kirby said.

which monitors the Syrian conflict through a network of activists on the ground. The Observatory and two independent activists said another five people who lived near one of the refineries were also killed, likely the wives and children of the militants. Kirby said the Pentagon is looking into reports that civilians were killed but has no evidence yet. Other strikes hit checkpoints, compounds, training grounds and vehicles of the Islamic State group in northern and eastern Syria. The raids also targeted two Syrian military bases that had been seized by the Islamic State group. In the eastern Syrian town of Mayadeen, a building used by the militants as an Islamic court was also hit.

Apparently fearing more strikes, the militants reduced the number of fighters on their checkpoints, activists said. Many of the casualties the group has sustained in the American-led air raids have been at checkpoints. Activists also said that more families of Islamic State militants were clearing out of the city of Raqqa, the group's de facto capital, on Thursday, heading eastward. □



**A U.S. Navy F-18E Super Hornet receives fuel from a KC-135 Stratotanker over northern Iraq after conducting airstrikes as part of U.S. led coalition airstrikes on the Islamic State group and other targets in Syria. U.S.-led airstrikes targeted Syrian oil installations held by the militant Islamic State group overnight and early Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014, killing nearly 20 people as the militants released dozens of detainees in their de facto capital, fearing further raids, activists said.**

(AP Photo/U.S. Air Force, Staff Sgt. Shawn Nickel)

according to Syrian activists and state media. Activists also accused President Bashar Assad's troops of us-

new strikes involved six U.S. warplanes and 10 more from the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia,

At least 14 militants were killed, according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights,

## Iraqi woman activist killed by Islamic State

**VIVIAN SALAMA**  
**Associated Press**

**BAGHDAD (AP)** — Militants with the Islamic State group tortured and then publicly killed a human rights lawyer in the Iraqi city of Mosul after their self-proclaimed religious court ruled that she had abandoned Islam, the U.N. mission in Iraq said Thursday.

Gunmen with the group's newly declared police force seized Samira Salih al-Nuaimi last week in a northeastern district of the Mosul while she was home with her husband and three children, two people with direct knowledge of the incident told The Associated Press on Thursday. Al-Nuaimi was taken to a secret location. After about five days, the family was called by the morgue to

retrieve her corpse, which bore signs of torture, the two people said, speaking on condition of anonymity because of fears for their safety.

According to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq, her arrest was allegedly connected to Facebook messages she posted that were critical of the militants' destruction of religious sites in Mosul. A statement by the U.N. on Thursday added that al-Nuaimi was tried in a so-called "Sharia court" for apostasy, after which she was tortured for five days before the militants sentenced her to "public execution." Her Facebook page appears to have been removed since her death.

"By torturing and executing a female human rights'

lawyer and activist, defending in particular the civil and human rights of her fellow citizens in Mosul, ISIL continues to attest to

its infamous nature, combining hatred, nihilism and savagery, as well as its total disregard of human decency," Nikolay Mladenov,

the U.N. envoy to Iraq, said in a statement, referring to the group by an acronym. The statement did not say how she was killed. □



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## Hamas, Fatah reach partial Gaza deal in Egypt

**IBRAHIM BARZAK**  
**Associated Press**

**GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)**

— The militant Palestinian Hamas group and its rival Fatah movement on Thursday reached a partial agreement on governing the Gaza Strip, signaling a major step forward in reducing their deep-seated enmity.

Meanwhile, a senior Palestinian official said President Mahmoud Abbas' government, which runs the West Bank, will press forward with a United Nations bid to set a deadline for Israel to end its occupation of lands captured in the 1967 war, after efforts to enlist American support for the effort ran aground.

"Work with the Americans

about the possibility of joint action in the Security Council has reached an impasse," said chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat, adding that he expects the Palestinian delegation in New York to propose a U.N. resolution on the issue within three weeks.

The purpose of the resolution is to set the groundwork for the formal establishment of a Palestinian state.

Meanwhile, after days of discussions with Fatah leaders in Cairo, Hamas' deputy leader Mussa Abu Marzouk seemed upbeat in describing the new Gaza deal.

"We and Fatah have reached a deal today on reconciliation," he said.



**Khaled Mashaal, leader of the Palestinian Islamic militant movement Hamas, speaks during a speech held in Katara in Doha, Qatar. It's a busy week in Mideast diplomacy, book-ended by the launch of Israel-Hamas talks about a border deal for blockaded Gaza and the Palestinian president's U.N. speech scheduled for Friday, Sept. 26, 2014, about a new strategy for dealing with Israel.**

(AP Photo/Osama Faisal)

"The deal states that a (unity) government can officially assume control over government institutions in Gaza."

The deal struck behind closed doors in the Egyptian capital is the sixth official accord between the two groups, but with major issues not yet resolved — including salaries for Hamas

employees in Gaza and control over the coastal territory's security forces — concerns over possible new confrontations between the factions remain. Outlining the deal's provisions, Abu Marzouk said the new unity government will start making some payments to government officials in Gaza, though the

question of full salaries has been left to future negotiation.

Also, he said, the government will jointly man border crossing points with Israel and Egypt and jointly administer a hoped-for Gaza reconstruction process, funded by donations from European and other western countries. □

## Pakistani guard attacks British prisoner

**WAQAR GILLANI**  
**© 2014 New York Times**

**LAHORE, Pakistan** - A British citizen of Pakistani descent who had been sentenced to death on blasphemy charges was wounded Thursday after a prison guard opened fire on him in Rawalpindi, police officials said.

The prisoner, identified as Muhammad Asghar, 70, was taken to a hospital and his condition was stable, officials said.

Asghar was arrested in 2010 on blasphemy charges after being accused of distributing letters claiming

he was a prophet, and he was sentenced to death in January.

His family has said he has a history of mental illness, including schizophrenia. He had appealed the conviction and was meanwhile serving time in Adiala jail, a high-security prison in Adiala, in the military garrison city of Rawalpindi, in Punjab province, near the capital, Islamabad.

On Thursday morning, a prison guard believed to be in his 20s walked up to Asghar's cell and shot him with a pistol, officials said. It remained unclear what

prompted the attack, but officials speculated that the guard was motivated by religion.

"The attacker has been arrested," said Abdul Ma-jeed, a local police official. "It is being investigated how the guard managed to take a pistol inside the prison," he said.

Asghar was shot at least once through the back. The prisons' police chief for Punjab, Farooq Nazir, said eight police officials had been suspended for negligence and that an inquiry had been ordered. □

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## Ukraine president sure that peace is on the way



Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko gestures during a press conference in Kiev, Ukraine, Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014. Poroshenko gave his first major news conference since taking office in June. (AP Photo/Efrem Lukatsky)

LAURA MILLS

**KIEV, Ukraine (AP)** — Ukraine's leader said Thursday that "the most dangerous part of the war" has passed and that the conflict with pro-Russia sepa-

ratists in the country's east is on the wane. Artillery fire, however, still rang out in the region's largest city. In a news conference in Kiev outlining a six-year plan for Ukraine, Petro Po-

roshenko said: "I have no doubt whatsoever that my peace plan will work and that the main and most dangerous part of the war is behind." Poroshenko's plan includes

reforming all major government agencies in the country. The president said he hoped those reforms would make the country ready for membership in the European Union by 2020.

But Poroshenko spent much of the news conference fielding questions about a conflict in the east of the country, where fighting between government and rebel forces has killed at least 3,500 people since mid-April.

His peace proposal, which was laid out soon after he became president in June, were the foundation for agreements this month aimed at ending the fighting.

The first step was a cease-fire called three weeks ago that in the beginning was repeatedly violated. In recent days, reports of violations have decreased notably, although on Thursday the city council of Donetsk, the largest rebel stronghold in the region, said that artillery fire and other explosions could be heard throughout the city

during the day.

Poroshenko also said he is working to arrange a meeting within the next few weeks with Russian President Vladimir Putin, but stressed it was contingent on whether the cease-fire was implemented or not.

Poroshenko, who has been at pains to justify striking a deal with the Russia-backed rebels, spent much of the news conference defending his decision to sign a peace agreement with the insurgents and said he believed Russian policy toward Ukraine had turned a corner.

"At the beginning, Russia's objective was clear," he said. "Certain people in the Kremlin administration thought Ukraine was a giant with feet of clay. They thought they could just push us, and the entire southeast of the country would dissipate."

"I would sincerely like to believe that the relation of Russia (toward Ukraine) and their plans are changing — there has been a kind of transformation." □

## Uganda removes ousted prime minister's guards

RODNEY MUHUMUZA  
Associated Press

**KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)** — Uganda's military on Thursday removed armed guards from the residence of ousted Prime Minister Amama Mbabazi, who was fired last week amid an apparent power struggle with the country's long-serving president. A senior military officer who commands Uganda's land forces led a group of soldiers to Mbabazi's house to withdraw his security guards, who were replaced by police, said Ugandan

military spokesman Lt. Col. Paddy Ankunda.

As prime minister, Mbabazi was heavily guarded and moved around in an armored vehicle protected by a convoy of armed guards. He was not immediately available for comment.

"It is a simple operation in which Ugandan forces are being withdrawn from the premier security detail," Ankunda said, adding that the decision to remove military guards followed Mbabazi's dismissal as prime minister. □

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# Eau de Revolution: In Cuba, scents honor Chavez, Che

**ANDREA RODRIGUEZ**  
**Associated Press**

**HAVANA (AP)** — Call it "Eau de Revolution." Cuba's biggest producer of natural products has come up with a pair of colognes for the discerning supporter of international socialism who wants something more than just the

bottles and simple printed labels bearing only their names. But Labiofam is developing more attractive bottles and labels with hopes of putting the colognes on sale in Cuba and internationally, Gonzalez said. She declined to provide a timeline. Labiofam officials said they

Celebrity endorsements are a vital part of the perfume and cologne business, but scents inspired by political figures are rarer. One example is that associated with ousted Philippines President Joseph Estrada, a former movie action star and heartthrob who was forced out in a



**A man shows two bottles of cologne, one called "Ernesto," honors guerrilla leader Ernesto "Che" Guevara, and "Hugo," for the late Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez, in Havana, Cuba, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2014. Formulated by a French company and produced in Cuba, the colognes are being presented this week at a Labiofam convention in Havana.**

(AP Photo/Franklin Reyes)

iconic "Che" T-shirt. A woody and refreshing citric scent with notes of talcum powder called "Ernesto" honors guerrilla leader Ernesto "Che" Guevara. For those seeking something softer and fruitier, there's a blend with hints of mango and papaya called "Hugo," for the late Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez. "They will be very attractive colognes, but the names also mean a lot to us," said Isbel Gonzalez, vice president for research and development for Labiofam, which produces homeopathic medicines, cleaning products and dietary supplements. Formulated by a French company and produced in Cuba, the men's colognes are being presented this week at a Labiofam convention in Havana. The two scents so far have generic

and French firm Robertet worked for more than 1 1/2 years to produce the colognes. The Cuban company polled 122 visitors to other pharmaceutical conventions to determine what names people preferred from a pre-selected list of options. "It was a great challenge," said Cuban biochemist Mario Valdes, who led the scent design team. The French company did not respond to a request for comment. Labiofam is also producing a pair of women's perfumes called "Amalia" and "Alba." While ALBA is the Spanish acronym for the leftist Latin America regional alliance founded by Chavez, Gonzalez did not provide details about whether the perfumes' names also had political connotations.

2001 "people power" revolt. Estrada, now mayor of the Philippines capital of Manila, was known for using a distinctively scented body powder, and at one point during his presidency packages described as Estrada's body powder were put on sale for his followers. Guevara's image has long been appropriated for products as diverse as clothing and automobiles, often running into objections from the survivors of the Argentine-born revolutionary who helped Fidel and Raul Castro's rebels overthrow Cuban President Fulgencio Batista in 1959. Chavez became the Castros' greatest ally since the breakup of the Soviet Union, frequently visiting and supplying Cuba with millions of barrels of discounted oil that provided vital support for the island's struggling economy. □

# Mexican cartels stealing billions from oil industry

**MARK STEVENSON**  
**Associated Press**

**CIUDAD MIER, Mexico (AP)** — Mexico overcame 75 years of nationalist pride to reform its flagging, state-owned oil industry. But as it prepares to develop rich shale fields along the Gulf Coast, and attract foreign investors, another challenge awaits: taming the brutal drug cartels that rule the region and are stealing billions of dollars' worth of oil from pipelines. Figures released by Petroleos Mexicanos last week show the gangs are becoming more prolific and sophisticated. So far this year, thieves across Mexico have drilled 2,481 illegal taps into state-owned pipelines, up more than one-third from the same period of 2013. Pemex estimates it's lost some 7.5 million barrels worth \$1.15 billion.

Pemex director Emilio Lozoya called the trend "worrisome."

More than a fifth of the illegal taps occurred in Tamaulipas, the Gulf state neighboring Texas that is a cornerstone for Mexico's future oil plans. It has Mexico's largest fields of recoverable shale gas, the natural gas extracted by fracturing rock layers, or fracking.

Mexico, overall, is believed to have the world's sixth-largest reserves of shale gas — equivalent to 60 billion barrels of crude oil. That's more than twice the total amount of oil that Mexico has produced by conventional means over the last century.

The energy reform passed in December loosened Mexico's protectionist policies, opening the way for Pemex to seek foreign investors and expertise to help it exploit its shale fields. It hopes to draw \$10 billion to \$15 billion in private investment each year.

The attractiveness of the venture may hinge on bringing Tamaulipas under control.

"The energy reform won't be viable if we aren't successful ... in solving the problem of crime and impunity," said Sen. David Penchyna, who heads the Senate Energy Commission. "The biggest challenge we Mexicans have, and I say it without shame, is Tamaulipas."

Two rival gangs, the Zetas and the Gulf cartel, long have used Tamaulipas as a route to ferry drugs and migrants to the United States and, in recent years, diversified their business: stealing gas and crude and selling it to refineries in Texas or to gas stations on either side of the border.

At least twice a day, the gangs pull up to one of the hundreds of pipelines that crisscross the state. Workers quickly shovel down a couple of yards (meters) to uncover a pipeline and siphon their booty into a stolen tanker truck, said army Col. Juan Carlos Guzman, whose troops have raided a number of such illegal taps. A dirt farm road led down to one site outside Ciudad Victoria, 180 miles southwest of McAllen, Texas. About a half-mile from a nearby highway, thieves had dug out a pit and inserted a large needle-like device into the pipeline. By the time soldiers arrived, the gang members had fled, and only the driver of the half-loaded gasoline truck was arrested.

The knowledge needed to tap into the pressurized pipelines leads authorities to suspect the gangs have infiltrated Pemex or co-opted company workers.

"It is impossible to do this without information on the timing and level of flows," said Marco Antonio Bernal, a federal congressman from Tamaulipas who is drafting legislation to toughen punishment for pipeline thefts. The suspicions were reinforced earlier this month when detectives nabbed a Gulf cartel leader who was found carrying a fake Pemex employee credential, complete with his photo and a false name. □





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Mr. Ricardo Croes representing Aruba Tourism Authority conducted the ceremony for the honorees at the Marriott Ocean Club.

Mrs. Renee commented that she will never change her vacation island for any other island, and they were here on this visit celebrating their 48<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and her birthday the same day, and Patrick and Patty



were celebrating their 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Aruba.

Top reason for returning provided by the honorees were they consider Aruba to be the "Happy Island," the great weather, the

friendly Aruban Hospitality, the white sand beaches and the local food!

Mr. Croes from ATA is seen together with the honorees and Lisette from the Marriott Ocean Club. □





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# Mickelson, McIlroy square off in opening session

**DOUG FERGUSON**

**AP Golf Writer**

**GLENEAGLES, Scotland (AP)**

— Phil Mickelson poked fun at Rory McIlroy. Now they get to face off in the Ryder Cup.

Mickelson and Keegan Bradley, undefeated as a team two years ago at Medinah, face the European powerhouse of McIlroy and Sergio Garcia in the opening session of fourballs on Friday at Gleneagles.

"We're looking to hand them their first defeat tomorrow morning," McIlroy said.

They will be the anchor match of what should be a fascinating opening session.

U.S. captain Tom Watson made sure all three of his rookies were on the course at Gleneagles right away, and two of them are partners — 21-year-old Jordan Spieth and 24-year-old Patrick Reed, the youngest pairing in Ryder Cup history. Europe captain Paul McGinley put together four pairings who have never played together in a Ryder Cup. That includes McIlroy and Garcia, who he said have become fast friends over the summer and asked to play together.

"The fun is only starting now," McGinley said.

Mickelson took a playful jab at McIlroy on Wednesday when he said the best part of American unity is the players don't "litigate against each other." McIlroy has a court battle against his former management company, and the lawsuit involves Graeme McDowell.

McIlroy told Golf Channel on Thursday that he "got a



**Europe's Rory McIlroy and Sergio Garcia, left, walk along the 15th fairway during a practice round ahead of the Ryder Cup golf tournament at Gleneagles, Scotland, Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2014.**

**Associated Press**

couple of jabs back" at the gala dinner on Wednesday.

"I know Phil well and we had a couple of laughs about it," McIlroy said.

Mickelson and Bradley went 2-1-1 as partners in the Presidents Cup last year, so they are not unbeatable. And while they faced some of Europe's strongest tandems at Medinah — including handing Garcia and Luke Donald their first loss in foursomes — this might be the toughest yet.

"It's going to be a difficult match against what we perceive as the strongest team that Europe has," Mickelson said.

Watson went with his strength at the top. He

chose Bubba Watson and Webb Simpson in the opening match against Justin Rose and Henrik Stenson. Watson and Simpson won both fourballs matches at Medinah, beating both opponents on the 14th hole. Rickie Fowler and Jimmy Walker will play the second match against Martin Kaymer and Thomas Bjorn, the 43-year-old Dane who is playing in the Ryder Cup for the first time since 2002. Spieth and Reed will face Ian Poulter and Stephen Gallacher in what might be the most compelling match of the morning.

"I told them today, 'I'm going to throw you in the ocean without a life preserver. You're on your own. You get out there and you

get it done,'" Watson said. Poulter is the most dynamic Ryder Cup player for Europe, a winner of seven straight matches and coming off a 4-0 record at Medinah. His rookie partner makes the team even more daunting. Gallacher, the only Scottish player at Gleneagles, lives about 35 miles (55 kilometers) away. He received the loudest cheer during the opening ceremony.

"Absolutely buzzing," Poulter said. "Playing with Stevie G, home course, in Scotland, first Ryder Cup. It's going to be amazing. I can't wait to smash it down the middle."

Spieth and Reed sounded up for the challenge.

"I don't think you could

have picked out two people that we want to play against more," Spieth said. "I feel like our job is to win a point."

We can do that with those two guys. We're going to really lower their team morale, I feel like."

McGinley sat out two of his rookies — Victor Dubuisson of France and Jamie Donaldson of Wales. Also sitting out are Lee Westwood, who has been in every Ryder Cup since 1997, and McDowell.

Watson is sitting out Jim Furyk and Matt Kuchar, who are Nos. 4 and 9 in the world. Furyk, however, is 1W-8L-1D in fourballs, with his only victory in 2006 with Tiger Woods as his partner. Also sitting are Hunter Mahan and Zach Johnson, both extremely accurate and perhaps better suited for foursomes in the afternoon. Both captains said their plan was for all 12 players to be on the course by the end of Friday.

"People are going to say there is real strength at the top, real strength at the bottom," McGinley said. "It's really strength all over. I really, really rate this American team. We're going to have to be on if we're going to beat them."

The Americans have not trailed after the opening session since 2006, though Bubba Watson was not sure a lead was critical — not after what happened at Medinah two years ago when Europe staged the greatest comeback away from home.

"We saw in 2012 that obviously a hot start is not the key," the Masters champ said. "It's about finishing." □





## Dolphins take quarterback controversy to London

CHRIS LEHOURITES

AP Sports Writer

**LONDON (AP)** — As if a flight across the Atlantic Ocean to play a regular-season game wasn't distracting enough, the Miami Dolphins don't even seem to know who will be their starting quarterback.

The Dolphins (1-2) are headed to London to play the Oakland Raiders (0-3) at Wembley Stadium on Sunday in the first of three games in the British capital this season. Miami coach Joe Philbin has been asked repeatedly if quarterback Ryan Tannehill will start, but he has been noncommittal.

If you ask Tannehill, at least you get an answer.

"I'm taking the first snap of the game and playing the game," Tannehill said. "I'm prepared to my fullest and go out and try to put this team in a position to win games. Nothing has changed in my preparation or how I'm approaching this game."

The Dolphins arrive in Britain on Friday and plan to practice in the afternoon. The Raiders got to town on Monday and have been getting over the jet lag and getting into their usual practice routine.

Although they have been an ocean apart all week, the Miami quarterback controversy is not lost of the Raiders defense.

"I don't want to get into what the quarterback is doing, is he good or bad," Raiders cornerback Carlos Rogers said Thursday. "They say he's still the starting quarterback of that team, so obviously it's not a back-up that they trust, and he's

going to be out there."

Here are some more things to know about Sunday's game:

**THE OTHER QUARTERBACK:** Raiders quarterback Derek Carr is still looking for his first win in the NFL. The rookie from Fresno State has started all three games this year, and coach Dennis Allen seems to like what he sees.

"Obviously we felt good about him when we drafted him," Allen said. "I knew he was really smart but I guess I didn't know exactly how smart he was until we actually put him in those situations and watched him operate and watched him retain the information we were giving him."

"We've put a lot on him. We're in no way limited as to what we can do with him at the quarterback position. We can throw a lot of different stuff at him. He does a great job operating it and keeping our offense on the same page."

With a good game on Sunday, Carr could end up getting his first professional win in a foreign country.

**FIRST HALF:** The Dolphins have struggled plenty in the first half this season, trailing in all three games so far. And after opening the season with a win over the New England Patriots, the Dolphins have lost the last two by 19 points each.



**Oakland Raiders players practice blocking during a training session at Pennyhill Park, Bagshot, England, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2014. The Raiders will play the Miami Dolphins in an NFL football game at London's Wembley Stadium on Sunday Sept. 28.**

Philbin has an easy solution to that problem.

"From an offensive perspective, more points," the coach said.

The Dolphins have been averaging 5.2 yards per rush, second in the league. But they have been running only 37 percent of time, lower than league average.

"I don't think we're necessarily going to be 50-50 all of the time," Philbin said. "If you're running the ball consistently well and managing the sticks pretty well, that's a good place to be." **RUN, RUN, RUN:** The Raiders have improved on stopping the run, but now they need to get their own rush going.

"Obviously we haven't started as fast as we would like. That's something that

we constantly preach around here, getting off to a fast start and being able to execute early in the game," Allen said.

"Not only getting off to a fast start in the first half, but being able to get off to a fast start in the second half of the football game. We've kind of done that a little bit in spurts on both sides of the ball, but we haven't done it as consistently as we need to."

**LONDON CALLING:** The Dolphins are playing in London for the second time since the NFL started staging regular-season games in Britain, while the Raiders are on the island for the first time.

Miami lost to the New York Giants 13-10 in 2007.

There are two more games scheduled to be played

later this season at Wembley, the home of England's national soccer team. The Atlanta Falcons will face the Detroit Lions on Oct. 26 and the Jacksonville Jaguars will play the Dallas Cowboys on Nov. 9.

Whether or not a franchise could eventually be based in London is still on many people's mind.

"I definitely see the difficulties in it, but I do think it's just bound to happen," Raiders defensive lineman Justin Tuck said. "The NFL is branding and reaching out and it seems like every other sport is doing the same as well. So I do agree with you in the fact that it's kind of more when it will happen, but there are a lot of questions and a lot of things that have to be solidified before it does." □

Associated Press



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## Kershaw, Dodgers win NL West title over Giants

**The Associated Press**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Clayton Kershaw tied a career high with his 21st victory, Yasiel Puig homered to highlight a four-run sixth inning and the Los Angeles Dodgers won the NL West title with a 9-1 victory over the second-place San Francisco Giants on Wednesday night.

Fittingly, the Dodgers claimed their second straight division title behind Kershaw (21-3), the probable NL Cy Young Award winner and MVP candidate who has been the catalyst behind their success this season.

He didn't pitch lights out — getting called for a balk and wild pitch — and he committed a throwing error in the seventh but he did a little bit of everything, including hitting and fielding to ensure the Dodgers' celebrated in front of their longtime rivals.

### **CUBS 3, CARDINALS 1**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Jake Arrieta struck out 10, leading the Chicago Cubs over St. Louis.

The Cardinals kept their 1½-game lead over Pittsburgh in the NL Central. The loss assured NL East champion Washington will open a division series at home.

Arrieta (10-5), coming off a one-hit shutout against Cincinnati last week, pitched two-hit ball for seven innings. He also had a two-run triple off John Lackey (3-3).

Hector Rondon got his 27th save.

### **PIRATES 6, BRAVES 2**

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Andrew



**Members of the Los Angeles Dodgers, from left, Adrian Gonzalez, Clayton Kershaw, Yasiel Puig and A.J. Ellis celebrate after defeating the San Francisco Giants 9-1 and clinching the National League West Division title in a baseball game, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2014, in Los Angeles. Associated Press**

McCutchen homered for Pittsburgh's only runs, and the Pirates missed a chance to move up in the NL Central race, falling to Atlanta.

The Pirates, who clinched a playoff spot on Tuesday night, stayed 1½ games behind division-leading St. Louis. Pittsburgh lost for only the fourth time in its last 19 games.

Pirates catcher Russell Martin left in the fifth inning with tightness in his left hamstring.

Jeff Locke (7-6) allowed six runs and 13 baserunners — eight hits and five walks —

in only four innings.

Julio Teheran (14-13) hit a two-run single as Atlanta ended a five-game losing streak. Craig Kimbrel struck out McCutchen and Travis Snider with two on for his 45th save.

### **BREWERS 5, REDS 0**

**CINCINNATI (AP)** — Kyle Lohse pitched a two-hitter and drove in a run as the Milwaukee Brewers forestalled elimination from the playoffs with a win over Cincinnati.

Lohse (13-9) gave up a pair of singles by Jack Hannahan in his second shutout of the season.

Rickie Weeks had a pair of singles and drove in a run, and Carlos Gomez had an RBI double off Daniel Corcino (0-2).

### **PHILLIES 2, MARLINS 1**

**MIAMI (AP)** — Kyle Kendrick pitched seven innings, had three hits and drove in a run, Jonathan Papelbon closed in his first appearance since being suspended and the Philadelphia Phillies beat Miami.

Papelbon, who completed a seven-game suspension Sunday, earned his 38th save in 42 chances with a scoreless ninth. Major League Baseball penal-

ized Papelbon because he made a lewd gesture and then bumped an umpire after blowing a save against the Marlins on Sept. 14.

Kendrick (10-13) broke a scoreless tie with two outs in the seventh when he doubled home Darin Ruf. Kendrick also singled twice and hiked his average from .095 to .136.

Marlon Byrd put the Phillies ahead to stay when he hit a one-out RBI single in the eighth off Chris Hatcher (0-3).

### **PADRES 4, ROCKIES 3**

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — Joe Wieland earned his first big league win, and Tommy Medica hit a three-run home run and a replay-aided double to lead the Padres to a victory against Colorado in their home finale.

The Padres notched their 76th win with four games to go, matching their victory total from each of the last two seasons.

It was San Diego's 48th home win, setting the franchise single-season record at Petco Park, which opened in 2004.

Colorado's Justin Morneau went 0 for 3 to see his NL-leading average drop two percentage points to .317. Pittsburgh's Josh Harrison went 1 for 5 to drop to .316. Wieland (1-0) was making his second start and fourth appearance since May 6, 2012. He underwent reconstructive surgery on his right elbow in July 2012,

forcing him to miss all of 2013 and part of this season. □



# Jeter, Yanks eliminated with 9-5 loss to Orioles

**The Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Derek Jeter and the Yankees were eliminated from post-season contention, beaten by Nelson Cruz and the AL East champion Orioles.

Jeter went 0 for 4 as the designated hitter in his next-to-last game at Yankee Stadium.

The Yankees missed the playoffs in consecutive years for the first time since 1992 and '93. The only other time New York missed the playoffs during the retiring captain's 20-season big league career was in 2008. Cruz had four hits as the Baltimore remained 2 1/2 games behind the Los Angeles Angels for the best record in the AL.

## **TIGERS 6, WHITE SOX 1**

**DETROIT (AP)** — Justin Verlander pitched eight impressive innings and the Detroit Tigers clinched a postseason spot, rallying after benches cleared in the sixth inning to beat the White Sox.

The Tigers lead the AL Central by two games over Kansas City. Detroit was assured of at least a wild-card spot when Seattle lost.

White Sox ace Chris Sale was breezing along with a shutout when he hit Victor Martinez with a pitch in the sixth. The two exchanged words and the benches and bullpens emptied.

Ian Kinsler gave Detroit the lead with an RBI double in the seventh off Javy Guerra (2-4).

Verlander (15-12) allowed a run and seven hits.

## **INDIANS 6, ROYALS 4**

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — Yan Gomes hit a three-run homer, Michael Brantley got three more hits and the Cleveland Indians stayed in the AL wild-card chase for at least one more day by beating Kansas City.

A loss would have eliminated the Indians, but after blowing a 3-0 lead, they rallied and moved within 3½ games of Kansas City and Oakland in the wild-card standings. There are

four days left in the regular season.

The Royals, who haven't made the playoffs since 1985, fell two games behind first-place Detroit in the AL Central.

Zach McAllister (4-7) pitched 2 1-3 scoreless innings and Cody Allen worked the ninth for his 23rd save.

The Indians took the lead in the fifth off rookie Brandon Finnegan (0-1).

## **BLUE JAYS 1, MARINERS 0**

**TORONTO (AP)** — Mark Buehrle pitched eight shut-out innings to reach 200 innings for the 14th consecutive season, Ryan Goins drove in the only run and the Toronto Blue Jays pushed Seattle closer to playoff elimination.

Buehrle (13-10) allowed three hits, walked one and struck out 10, one shy of his season high. He left to his second standing ovation of the night after Chris Taylor's leadoff single in the ninth. He finished the season with 202 innings.

Aaron Sanchez came on and picked off pinch-runner James Jones, then got the final two outs for his third save in as many chances. The game was played in a brisk 1 hour, 59 minutes.

The Mariners lost their fifth straight and have dropped nine of 12. Rookie Taijuan Walker (2-3) pitched his first career complete game, giving up four hits.

## **ANGELS 5, ATHLETICS 4**

**OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)** — Howie Kendrick doubled and drove in three runs, and the AL West champion Los Angeles Angels held off the playoff-hopeful Oakland Athletics.

The A's and Kansas City are tied for the AL wild-card spot.

Angels star Mike Trout left the game before the top of the fifth with a stomach illness.

Hector Santiago (6-9) worked 5 1-3 innings for his first outing longer than two innings in three starts. Houston Street, the seventh Los

Angeles pitcher, finished for his 17th save with the Angels and 41st overall.

A's starter Jon Lester (16-11) gave up five runs in seven innings. He was winless in three starts against the Angels this year.

## **RED SOX 11, RAYS 3**

**BOSTON (AP)** — Anthony Ranaudo pitched seven strong innings, and Garin Cecchini hit his first major league home run to help the fifth-place Boston Red Sox beat the fourth-place Tampa Bay.

Ranaudo (4-3) allowed two runs on six hits and a walk, striking out two to snap a three-game losing streak. The victory was the 69th of the season for the defending AL East and World Series champions, who need one more win to beat their total from 2012 — their only season under Bobby Valentine.

Jake Odorizzi (11-13) allowed five runs in three-plus innings.

## **RANGERS 5, ASTROS 1**

**ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)** — Lisalberto Bonilla became



New York Yankees' Derek Jeter grounds out during the first inning of a baseball game against the Baltimore Orioles Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2014, at Yankee Stadium in New York.

Associated Press

the first pitcher in Rangers history to win his first three career starts with a victory over the Astros.

Bonilla (3-0), promoted Sept. 2 from Triple-A Round Rock, allowed four hits and struck out seven in six scoreless innings. His wins all have come during a stretch when the Rangers have won 11 of 12 games, including their last four. Their sweep of Houston was

the Astros' third loss in a row and seventh in nine games. Houston starter Scott Feldman (8-12) allowed only one hit through 4 1/3 innings. With one out in the fifth, Leonys Martin bunted for a single and scored on Andrus' double down the left field line.

Andrus has driven in six runs in his last nine games after a stretch of 11 games without an RBI. □

# Detroit says Datsyuk will miss start of NHL

**DETROIT (AP)** — Russian star center Pavel Datsyuk is expected to miss the start of the NHL because of a separated right shoulder.

Datsyuk will miss 4-5 weeks, Detroit Red Wings general manager Ken Holland said. The 36-year-old Datsyuk was injured in the Red Wings' exhibition opener at Pittsburgh on Monday when he was checked into the glass

by defenseman Rob Scuderi.

The Red Wings open the season on Oct. 9 against Boston.

"The good news is that there's two weeks to go before the regular season starts," Holland said.



Detroit Red Wings' Pavel Datsyuk (13) celebrates with teammates as he returns to the bench after scoring during the second period of a NHL pre-season hockey game against the Pittsburgh Penguins in Pittsburgh Monday, Sept. 22, 2014.

Associated Press

"He'll have two weeks of healing under his belt." Datsyuk missed 37 games in 2013-14, 30 from a knee in-

jury and seven with a concussion. He still managed 17 goals and 37 points in 45 games. □



# U.S. women set to defend hoop title at world tourney

**DOUG FEINBERG**  
AP Basketball Writer

While the U.S. women's basketball team is a heavy favorite to win another gold medal at the world championship, the Americans have shown some unusual vulnerability. The U.S. has only lost once at the worlds since 1998, but suffered a rare defeat in an exhibition game against France last weekend. That setback raised a few eyebrows heading into the tournament, which begins Saturday in Istanbul. "There are a lot of really good teams in the tournament and we're one of them," said coach Geno Auriemma "For us or anyone else to think we're

anything more than that is not being really objective about this whole thing." The Americans ran through the 2012 London Olympics winning by an average of 34 points and have more than half of that team back in Turkey. Point guard Sue Bird, who will become the first U.S. player to compete on four world championship teams, will help lead the U.S. offense. Bird said she wasn't aware of the milestone, "it's kind of surreal in a way." One reality she is used when it comes to playing for the U.S. is the limited training as a team. While other nations have been together for months preparing for the worlds,



USA's Tina Charles, left, and Canada's Katherine Plouffe, right, battle for a control of the ball during the second half of a women's exhibition basketball game, Monday, Sept. 15, 2014, in Bridgeport, Conn. USA defeated Canada 76-51.

Associated Press

## Women get go-ahead to compete in 4-man bobsled

**GRAHAM DUNBAR**  
AP Sports Writer

**GENEVA (AP)** — Call it four-man bobsled still, but women can start taking part in the event this season.

Bobsled's world governing body, known as the FIBT, has opened the four-man competitions to mixed gender teams.

Teams consisting of a female pilot driving and men push-starting the bob could now be seen on the World Cup circuit from December and at the world championships in February next year.

"I strongly believe women can drive a four-man and be competitive," FIBT President Ivo Ferriani said in a telephone interview on Thursday. "For us, it's the natural evolution of our sport."

The 2018 Winter Olympics staged in Pyeongchang, South Korea, is a natural target for mixed teams, though Ferriani cautioned it was "too soon to create too much speculation."

"It's important to make the first step," the Italian officials said. "To analyze the situation and give the opportunity, and to have some terms of reference." Previously, women com-



In this Feb. 19, 2014, file photo, the team from the United States USA-1, piloted by Elana Meyers, left, with brakeman Lauryn Williams, get congratulated in the finish area after their silver medal run during the women's bobsled competition at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia.

Associated Press

peted only in two-athlete bobs and men competed in twos and fours.

There are no plans for adding fours to the all-female competitions, but Ferriani said the rules are open on what the gender balance can be in a four-member crew on the men's circuit. "At the moment we don't have any limits," he said. "I think, personally, a woman pilot with three men can be strong."

Two-time Olympic champion Kaillie Humphries of

Canada has said she wants to pilot a bob pushed by three male teammates.

Ferriani said mixed teams could first take part in World Cup races at a Dec. 15-21 meet in December at Calgary, Canada.

"They must prove in the qualification process they are at the right level," he said.

After the eight-meeting World Cup circuit, the world championships are held Feb. 23-Mar. 1 in Winterberg, Germany. □

the Americans didn't finalize their roster until Tuesday. What the team lacks in preparation, they make up for with talent. The roster is headlined by Diana Taurasi, Angel McCoughtry and Maya Moore.

One potential thorn for the U.S. is a lack of experienced post players.

Two-time Olympians Candace Parker and Sylvia Fowles are out with injuries. That just leaves Tina Charles and Candice Dupree as the only experienced posts. They do, however, have 6-foot-8 Brittney Griner, who will be making her debut on the U.S. national team. She was the WNBA defensive player of the year and set a record for most blocked shots in a game and season. Griner recently was cleared to join the team after suffering a retinal injury in Game 2 of the WNBA Finals.

"I think my role will be blocking shots, playing defense and protecting that paint," said Griner, who didn't play in the loss to France. "I'm happy with that, because I love defense."

The Americans have a relatively easy draw facing China, Serbia and Angola in preliminary pool play. The U.S. has won all 11 meetings with China and Angola and will be facing Serbia for the

first time.

Only Russia and Australia have caused problems for the U.S. in major international tournaments since 1996. The Russians handed the Americans their only major loss in the last 16 years in the 2006 world championship semifinals, but they didn't qualify for Istanbul.

Australia was leading the U.S. at the half of the semifinals of the London Olympics before falling by 13. The Aussies chances of a repeat performance took a huge hit as stars Lauren Jackson and Liz Cambage both are out with Achilles tears.

That doesn't mean the U.S. won't be challenged.

France made an incredible run to win a silver medal in 2012 and has confidence after beating the Americans by four points on Sunday. They are led by WNBA players Sandrine Gruda and Celine Dumerc.

Turkey has been improving over the past few years and has the added advantage of playing at home in front of a spirited crowd.

"They are going to be very tough to beat," Auriemma said. "I think if you're the home team like the Czech Republic was in 2010 there's some emotional benefit you get from that, provided you play well." □



# Apple's response to iPhone glitches is key

**BRANDON BAILEY**

**AP Technology Writer**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** —

Apple's response to a high-profile gaffe involving its iPhone software may be more important than the glitch itself.

As the giant tech company scrambled to fix a software glitch that left some of its new iPhones unable to make calls, some analysts said Thursday that Apple is doing the right thing by quickly acknowledging and apologizing for the problem — which it was slower to do with earlier iPhone problems.

"There's a certain perception that Apple has to get things right, and when they don't, the whole company gets questioned," said Carolina Milanesi, chief of research at Kantar Worldpanel. "But they came out and said 'We apologize; we're working 24/7 to fix it.' I think that's what matters."

Apple's stock fell more than 3 percent Thursday, leading a broader decline in technology shares, a day after the company was forced to withdraw an update to its new iOS 8 mobile software because of glitches that primarily affected customers who had purchased its new iPhone 6 and 6 Plus models. The 6 Plus phone has also been the subject of social media reports that its extra-large shell may be vulnerable to

bending.

Without commenting on the bending reports, Apple late Wednesday offered users a way to manually reverse the software update, known as iOS 8.0.1. In a statement, the company added, "We apologize for the great inconvenience experienced by users, and are working around the clock to prepare iOS 8.0.2 with a fix for the issue."

Apple began selling the new iPhones last week in what the company has called one of the biggest product launches in its history. The company said it sold a record 10 million of the new models over the weekend. It also reported this week that nearly half of all iPhone and iPad users had upgraded to the new software known as iOS 8.

That new software contains a number of new features and is more complex than earlier versions of iOS, analysts said. Apple released the 8.0.1 update on Wednesday to fix some flaws that were detected after iOS 8 was released — only to find the 8.0.1 update created problems of its own. The new problems included interference with calling and with a feature that lets people unlock their phones with their fingerprint. That's not uncommon, according to veteran tech analyst Ross Rubin of Reticle Research. "All major



In this June 2, 2014 photo, Apple CEO Tim Cook speaks about iOS 8 at the Apple Worldwide Developers Conference in San Francisco.

Associated Press

companies have released fixes that they've had to pull because of unforeseen side-effects," he added.

Apple is held to a higher standard by many consumers, analysts said. But Milanesi said she thought the company suffered more harm a few years ago, when it was slow to acknowledge complaints about poor reception and dropped calls that affected new iPhone 4 models when they were released in 2010. The company eventually offered a fix for the

problem, after then-CEO Steve Jobs initially suggested users just needed to hold the phone differently. "There wasn't any of that this time," Milanesi said. She noted that Jobs' successor, CEO Tim Cook, had also taken responsibility and apologized for initial problems with Apple's Maps software when it was first released. Meanwhile, one analyst said Thursday's stock sell-off was more likely related to broader market concerns than investor unease about the new

iPhones.

"Earnings is what drives the stock the most," said Walter Piecyk of BTIG Research. "It's too early to say what the impact's going to be, but it does not appear to be something that would impact the company's ability to deliver on earnings" in the next two quarters. Apple said users affected by the software glitch can connect their phone to a Mac or Windows computer and download a file to restore an earlier version of the iOS 8 software. □

## Cyber experts warn of 'Bash' bug

**BARBARA ORTUTAY**

**AP Technology Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** —

New warnings are emerging of a security flaw known as the "Bash" bug, which cyber experts say may pose a serious threat to computers and other devices using Unix-based operating systems such as Linux and Mac OS X.

Beyond computers, devices ranging from home Internet routers to systems used to run factory floors and power plants to medical equipment could be affected.

The Department of Homeland Security's Computer

Emergency Readiness Team issued a warning about the vulnerability this week. Experts are divided over whether the bug could pose a bigger threat than the "Heartbleed" computer security flaw discovered earlier this year. Security company Rapid7 said that while the vulnerability "looks pretty awful at first glance," hackers will not be able to exploit most systems running the affected Bash software. The Heartbleed bug exploited a key piece of security technology used by hundreds of thousands of websites. For more than

two years before it was discovered, the flaw exposed passwords and other sensitive data to hackers who could steal that information. The reason the Bash bug could be worse than Heartbleed is because it gives the attacker a bigger advantage than Heartbleed did, said Tod Beardsley, engineering manager at Rapid7. With Heartbleed, attackers could get an information leak. With the Bash bug, they can get "remote code execution," a way to take control of the affected device to install programs or run commands, he said. The bug is



In this Feb. 22, 2010 file photo, a student uses an Apple MacBook laptop in his class in Palo Alto, Calif.

Associated Press

rated a maximum 10 out of 10 for its impact and ease of exploitability by the Common Vulnerability Scoring System, an industry standard for assessing how

bad security flaws are.

On the other hand, a perfect set of conditions need to be present for the bug to be open to exploitation. That could limit its effect. □



# Wall Street takes big hit on Apple stumble

**MATTHEW CRAFT**  
AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A stumble by Apple set off the worst rout in the stock market since July on Thursday. The selling started early and picked up strength in the afternoon. By the close of trading, all 30 big companies in the Dow Jones

and strong runs are usually followed by short breaks. The index has lost 2 percent this week but is still up 6 percent for the year.

"There's just an absence of real news to chew on," said Mark Luschni, the chief investment strategist at Janney Montgomery Scott. "When you're at a peak,

companies, dropped 88.47 points, or 1.9 percent, to 4,466.75.

It was the worst day for all three indexes since July 31. Technology companies were hit hardest. Apple dropped nearly 4 percent following its announcement late Wednesday that it had pulled a software

But the less volatile four-week average fell. A separate report said business orders for equipment plunged last month, mainly a result of falling orders for commercial aircraft.

"The economic numbers were negative, but not alarming and don't change the direction of the economy at this time," said Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Rockwell Global Financial. Henry Smith, chief investment officer at Haverford Trust, said there was no fundamental reason behind the drop on Thursday. A sudden turn might seem alarming because it's so unusual.

"We've really had such little volatility for the past couple of years," Smith said. "Now when we have a 200-point drop in the Dow, it feels like something is really wrong." Trading this week has turned increasingly turbulent, an abrupt break from a sleepy summer. On Monday, concerns about slowing growth in China and falling U.S. home sales knocked the market back, giving the S&P 500 its worst daily drop in more than a month. On Wednesday, the S&P 500 had its best gain in more than a month. Some investment professionals have been warning that the market has been calm for too long and say a 10 percent drop, known as a "correction," is overdue. □



Specialist Glenn Carell works at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. A stumble by Apple set off the worst rout in the stock market since July on Thursday.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

industrial average and the 10 industries in the Standard & Poor's 500 index lost ground.

Most investors said the drop wasn't a sign of worry as all the forces behind the market's long rally remain in place. It was only a week ago that the S&P 500 touched a record high,

markets need more and more good news to keep climbing."

The S&P 500 index lost 32.31 points, or 1.6 percent, to close at 1,965.99.

The Dow slumped 264.26 points, or 1.5 percent, to close at 16,945.80. The Nasdaq composite, which is dominated by technology

update which prevented users from making phone calls. Others complained that they bent their new iPhones by sitting on them. Apple lost \$3.88 to \$97.87 in heavy trading.

Two economic reports out Thursday were little help. Claims for unemployment benefits crept up last week.

## GameStop to almost double seasonal workers

**GRAPEVINE, Texas (AP)** — Gamers rejoice: GameStop is almost doubling its number of seasonal workers this holiday season as it prepares to deal with strong demand for new video games and the new iPhone.

GameStop Corp. said Thursday that it plans to hire about 25,000 employees for the critical holiday period, up approximately 47 percent from a year ago. The video game retailer said that the additional seasonal hires are expected to help it provide better customer service as people

shop for new video games for Microsoft Corp.'s Xbox One, Sony Corp.'s PlayStation 4 and the Nintendo Wii U. The company said that it also expects many people will be trading in their mobile devices so that they can upgrade to the new iPhone 6 or iPhone 6 Plus from Apple Inc.

GameStop is not the only company preparing for the holiday rush. Kohl's Corp., Wal-Mart Stores Inc., FedEx Corp. and United Parcel Service Inc. are among those that have announced that they will be hiring more seasonal em-

ployees this year.

GameStop said that it is looking to hire warehouse workers for distribution centers in Grapevine, Texas and Louisville, Kentucky; sales associates for its stores and about 250 consumer electronic technicians for its refurbishment operation center. It did not disclose exactly how many sales associates or warehouse workers it plans to hire.

The Grapevine, Texas, company said that it will offer part-time, flexible work schedules with the possibility of up to 10 to 15 hours of work weeknights,

weekends and during the day. Seasonal workers will receive a 15 percent discount on certain merchandise in stores and online. GameStop said that individuals interested in applying for positions can visit the GameStop Careers section on its website or find a full list of jobs and other related details on its Facebook page or Twitter account for GameStop Careers.

Seasonal jobs will start on Oct. 6 and run through Jan. 9, 2015.

GameStop is not the only company preparing for the holiday rush. □

## Valeant pitches likely eye drug, research focus

**TOM MURPHY**  
AP Business Writer

Valeant Pharmaceuticals is drawing attention to a potential glaucoma treatment and its focus on product development, as the Canadian drugmaker continues to build its case to investors for a takeover of Botox-maker Allergan.

Irvine, California-based Allergan Inc. has rejected several acquisition bids from Valeant, the latest amounting to about \$53 billion. Its executives have said Valeant would slash research and development funding too much if it took over. They've also said the offers undervalue their company.

But Valeant Chairman and CEO Michael Pearson said Thursday that his company is committed to health care innovation and funding important research.

"We are pursuing development plans and programs for other priority markets around the world," Pearson said in a statement released Thursday about the eye treatment.

Valeant said the potential glaucoma drug, Vesneo, lowered eye pressure in late-stage research on patients with glaucoma or ocular hypertension. Its subsidiary, Bausch + Lomb, expects to seek Food and Drug Administration approval for the drug by in middle of next year. Bausch + Lomb licensed the drug from the French company Nicox S.A.

Valeant also said Thursday that Vesneo could reach peak sales of about \$500 million in the United States and \$1 billion globally.

Forecasts like that are rarely made by drugmakers for products that have yet to be approved.

Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc. completed its \$8.7 billion acquisition of contact lens-maker Bausch + Lomb last year. It has accused Allergan of making misleading statements about that subsidiary's performance. □



## Air France scales back Transavia plan, giving in to pilot demands

DAVID JOLLY

© 2014 New York Times

PARIS - Air France-KLM has bowed to a key demand of its striking pilots' union, raising prospects that an 11-day walkout that has grounded more than 6,000 flights and inconvenienced hundreds of thousands of travelers might end as early as Thursday.

Management said late Wednesday that it had canceled the proposed Europe-wide expansion of a low-cost subsidiary, Transavia, and called for striking pilots to return to work immediately. Instead, Air France-KLM said it would focus any expansion of Transavia on France.

The pilots' strike was touched off by Air France-KLM's announcement of a plan to invest 1 billion euros (\$1.28 billion) to make the no-frills Transavia unit better able to compete in Europe's discount-travel market. Members of the French National Union of Airline Pilots said the broader Transavia expansion would move too many jobs out of France and drive down pilots' pay.

The union, known by its French acronym SNPL, represents about 71 percent of Air France pilots. A union statement Thursday said that management had made "definitive offers" just a half-hour after negotiations began Wednesday evening. That was, the union said, evidence that management was not negotiating in good faith.

Union representatives, the statement said, "made reasonable proposals regarding the employment conditions" needed to break the stalemate, but "management chose to refuse them."

Negotiations were set to resume Thursday afternoon, the statement said.

"The strike is continuing for now," the union said, adding that it was "determined to pursue negotiations to rapidly find a solution."

With no progress announced by midafternoon on Thursday, Air France cautioned that it expected to operate only 48 percent of its flights on Friday, with an estimated 58 percent of pilots planning to strike again.

Cédric Leurquin, an Air France spokesman, insisted that management had not caved in, noting that there had been no budging on plans to expand Transavia France. As such, there could still be tense negotiations if the pilots' union holds out for a guarantee that Transavia France pilots will be hired on the same terms as Air France pilots.

The decision to cancel the broader Transavia Europe plan was "a gesture," Leurquin added. "We said we wanted to remove a fear that existed" for the pilots.

The tone from the French government, which owns 16 percent of the airline, hardened in recent days as the strike dragged on, clouding the image of the country as a competitive place to do business and causing chaos in travel schedules. The strike is also costing Air France-KLM about 20 million euros a day, setting back the company's effort to return to profitability.

"This strike must end now," Stéphane Le Foll, a spokesman for the French government, told Radio Classique. "We're stuck here on a project that, strategically, is important for the company. We have to find the ways and means for Air France to extend its activity in low-cost flights."

In a statement Wednesday, Alexandre de Juniac, Air France-KLM's chairman and chief executive, and Frédéric Gagey, who holds the same roles at Air France, said: "Our Transavia project is a 100 percent pro-France project. It is about developing Transavia to encourage growth in France and quickly create more than 1,000 jobs in France (including 250 pilot jobs)."

Having withdrawn the Transavia Europe project, they added, □

## H&M eyes expansion in US, China

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Fashion retailer Hennes & Mauritz AB said Thursday it plans to expand its business over the coming year by increasing online sales and opening new stores, particularly in its largest markets, the U.S. and China.

CEO Karl-Johan Persson says the Swedish company is in a "very intensive investment phase" and plans to open 8 to 10 online markets next year on top of 375 new stores in locations worldwide.

"Within online shopping,

we are in the midst of an exciting expansion," Persson said.

"We see our online store as a very important complement to our physical stores as the online store makes it possible for us to increase our level of service and availability to our customers."

His comments came as the company reported a near 20 percent increase in third-quarter net profit to 5.3 billion kronor (\$742 million) from 4.4 billion kronor in the same period a year

earlier. Sales grew to 38.8 billion kronor (\$5.4 billion) from 32 billion kronor a year earlier.

H&M opened new online markets this year in France, Italy and Spain and China, which received "a very good response from customers," Persson said.

The company opened another flagship store on Fifth Avenue in New York in the summer and said expansion plans were on track with most new stores opening in its largest markets, China and the U.S. □

## Ryanair gains as airline raises outlook

S. POGATCHNIK

Associated Press

DUBLIN (AP) — Ryanair says it plans to carry an extra 1 million passengers this year and has raised its profits outlook on the back of wide-ranging service improvements that have boosted sales and filled more aircraft.

The Dublin-based carrier told its annual general meeting Thursday that it plans to carry a record 87 million passengers in this fiscal year, better than its previously guided 86 million, and achieve net profits at or close to 650 million euros (\$825 million). That would reach the top end of its previous forecast and be 24 percent better than its net profits from the previous fiscal year that ended in March.

Ryanair shares rose as much as 4.2 percent in early trade in Dublin before retreating to 7.35 euros (\$9.35), up 0.5 percent. Its market value has grown by nearly a fifth this year, the strongest gain among airlines across Europe.

The carrier this year introduced flexible and family-friendly tickets, smoother online booking, easier baggage rules, and automatically assigned seats — all U-turns from a previous Spartan service culture that customers tolerated in exchange for cheap fares and extensive short-haul options.

Ryanair says these improvements have helped

to increase the average airplane "load factor," the industry measure of sold seats, to an exceptionally high 91 percent of all available.

have long shunned Ryanair in part because of its refusal to provide flexible tickets. Ryanair's new "business plus" tickets cost moderately more but can



Passengers exit a Ryanair flight at Dublin Airport. Ryanair says it plans to carry an extra 1 million passengers this year and has raised its profits outlook on the back of wide-ranging service improvements that have boosted sales and filled more aircraft. (AP Photo/Shawn Pogatchnik)

On Wednesday, Chief Executive Michael O'Leary unveiled a new Ryanair agreement to work with the travel agent engine Amadeus. Combined with an earlier deal with competitor TravelPort, Ryanair tickets are now available for third-party sale to networks that drive 90 percent of travel agent activity in Europe.

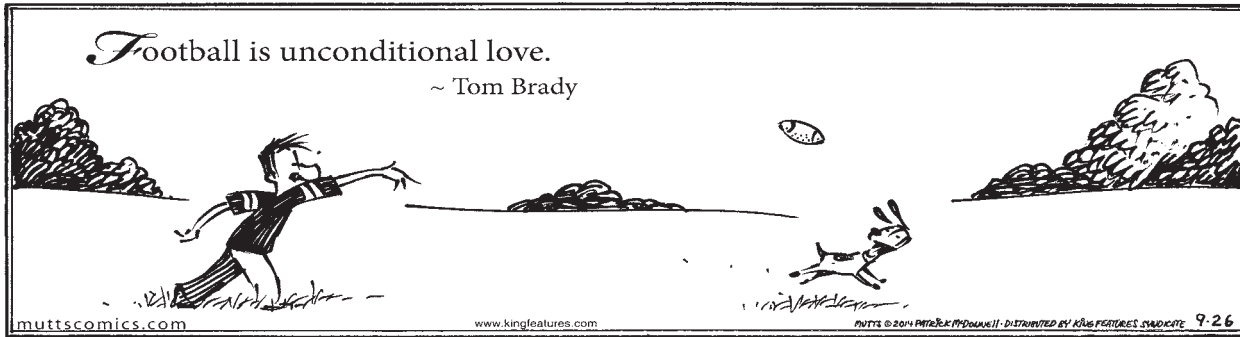
That, too, reversed a decade-long policy of trying to block travel agents from selling Ryanair tickets. The new policy is designed to attract corporate and government clients, who

be rescheduled for free. They offer no extra legroom or other on-board frills associated with premium tickets, but represent a viable new option for cost-cutting employers.

O'Leary recently has struck new orders for up to 200 new Boeing aircraft as part of his goal to boost Ryanair's fleet to 500 by 2019. He has expressed ambitions to expand Ryanair's route network into Russia and the Middle East, possibly through a proposed acquisition of state-controlled and debt-crippled Cyprus Airways. □



## Mutts



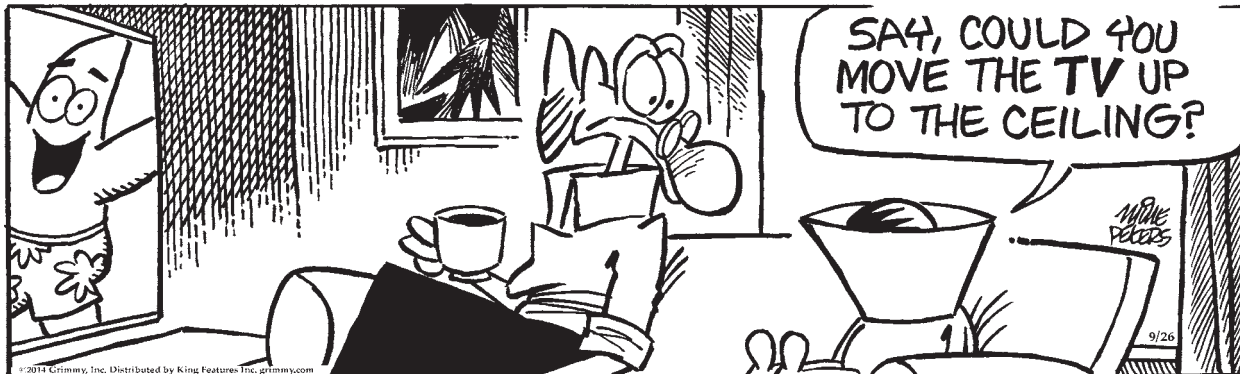
## 6 Chix



## Blondie



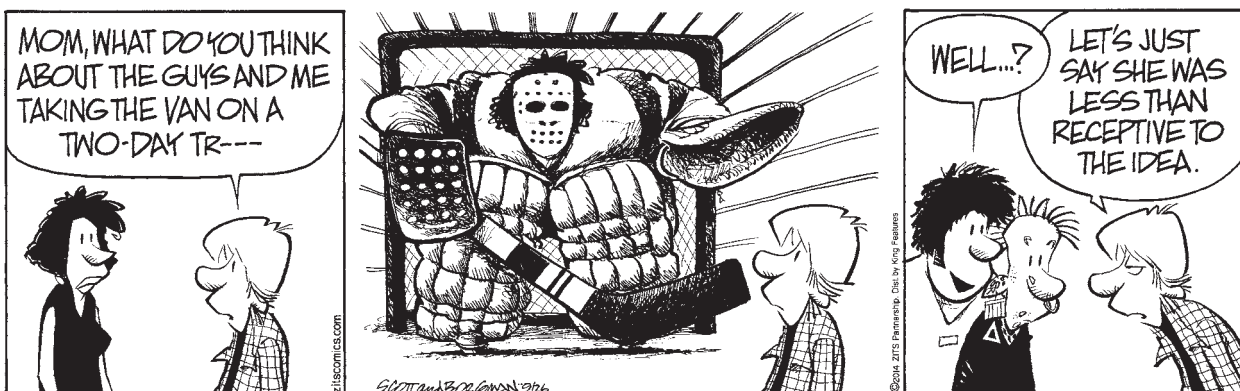
## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

		4				2		
			4	7	3			
8								5
	2		3		4		9	
	8						1	
	7		9		6		8	
6								4
			1	5	9			
		1				3		

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

9/26

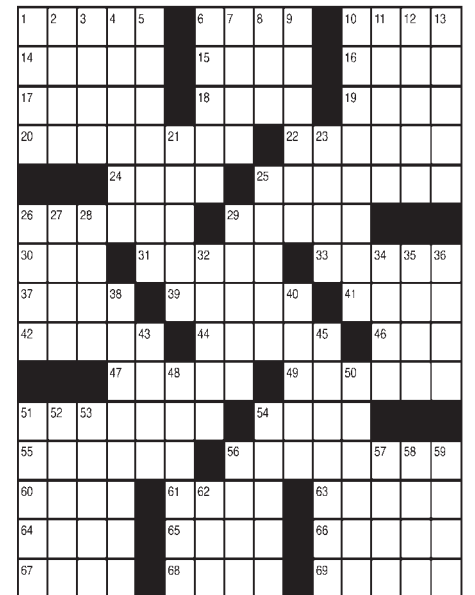
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

2	3	8	1	9	6	5	7	4
4	7	9	3	2	5	8	1	6
6	1	5	8	7	4	3	2	9
9	2	6	5	1	7	4	8	3
8	4	1	9	3	2	6	5	7
3	5	7	4	6	8	2	9	1
1	6	3	2	8	9	7	4	5
7	8	4	6	5	1	9	3	2
5	9	2	7	4	3	1	6	8

## ACROSS

- As \_\_\_ as a tack
- Was in debt
- Bathroom features
- Blanket
- Window glass
- Border on
- Linda Lavin's sitcom role
- Omelet maker's purchase
- Warsaw native
- Give new meaning to
- Cold period in history
- Quayle and Marino
- \_\_\_ flakes; sweet breakfast cereal
- Spurn
- Give a heads up to
- Highest spade
- Uncanny
- Boring events
- Bangkok fellow
- Irritated
- Christmas
- Melodies
- Discourage
- Gross income less expenses
- "A Boy \_\_\_ Sue"; song for Johnny Cash
- Davis & Midler
- Expose
- Law
- \_\_\_ up; formed twosomes
- Boxing
- Flat bread
- Dull-colored
- Hilo hello
- Get \_\_\_; take revenge
- Add liquor, as to the punch
- More recently purchased
- Take a nap
- Peebers
- Exchange



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/26/14

## Thursday's Puzzle Solved

### DOWN

- Permanent skin mark
- Donut's center
- Very eager
- Flow back
- Introductory part of a book
- \_\_\_ up; states one's feelings
- Salary
- School subj.
- Want
- Handwoven wall hanging
- German sub
- Stick out
- Lively horse
- Lay to rest
- Thick string
- Armada
- Word of disgust
- Reverberate
- Actress Stapleton
- Was sick
- Equestrian
- Mom's sister
- Delight

NASA	BASIL	SLOT
OWES	ELITE	HONE
TALK	REASONABLE	
EYE	GERM	OBEYS
	CRAFT	JOB
ATTEST	CANYON	
IRISH	SLOBS	VIE
LOOT	MOODS	DENY
SON	BASTE	VERNE
PSEUDO	RELAYS	
	DDE	MANIC
SPRIG	FIND	TON
PROCEEDING	LIMO	
EAST	LANCE	AVID
DYES	SNEER	GETS

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9/26/14

- \_\_\_ up; arranges
- Innocent
- Refers to
- Bumpkins
- \_\_\_ oneself; work steadily
- Des Moines, \_\_\_
- Get rid of
- Colt's mother
- Singer Charles



# Ellis Island hospital complex to open to visitors

COLLEEN LONG  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The crumbling old sick ward opens off a long hallway, separate from the rest of the Ellis Island hospital complex. Plaster peels from the walls. Broken porcelain light fixtures hang haphazardly above where beds once stood. The low clanging of boats and the splash of waves on the breakwater drift in through cracked windowpanes that showcase a resplendent view of the Statue of Liberty. This is where the sickest immigrants came on their final days.

"If you found yourself in this room, you were either too sick to survive or too sick to stay," tour guide Jessica Cameron-Bush said. "And this was your last view — the Statue of Liberty."

The historic complex, where 1.2 million immigrants received medical care between 1901 and 1954, is opening to the public on Wednesday for the first time in 60 years. The complex of 29 unrestored buildings is located across the ferry slip from the fully-restored immigration museum.

As part of the tour opening, an exhibit by artist JR titled "Unframed — Ellis Island," will be on display throughout the abandoned complex. The exhibit uses life-size historic photographs of immigrants and others that have superimposed on walls and other parts of the buildings. The effect is eerie. Round a corner, and come face-to-face with the eyes of children staring out from busted windows. Enter a sterilization room and see the doctors who once washed up before surgery. The photos are designed to fade away with time.

For the volunteer tour guides and historians, walking through the hospital complex is a dream. "To see the photos come to life, it really is so unique. I can't wait for more people to come and see this," said Cameron-Bush, who is the educational director of Save Ellis Island Inc., a nonprofit that raised funds along with the National Park Service to partially restore several of the hospital building complexes.

The 90-minute tours, run by Cameron-Bush and others, will take place four times a day and will be limited to 10 people per tour, ages 13 and older. The tickets are offered on a reserved basis by Save Ellis Island and cost \$25. Proceeds will go

which ruined the exhibit about the hospital that previously was used to teach schoolchildren.

"It seemed like an opportunity we could not pass up," she said. "It gives the public a glimpse of history, but also we're able to show them

they were allowed to enter the country — or were sent back to their native land. The facility included wards for contagious diseases, mental health and obstetrics. The laundry facility housed giant washers; a massive autoclave sterilized beds.

Visitors can stand in the old morgue, an angled room with a stadium seat so doctors could watch autopsies performed. About 3,500 people died at Ellis Island — 1,400 were children felled by scarlet fever, tuberculosis and other illnesses rampant in years past.

"It's gloomy now and has a romantic feeling, but this was not the way it was when it was opened," historian Barry Moreno said. "It was very clean, hygienic and state-of-the-art." □



Images that are part of the exhibit "Unframed — Ellis Island" by artist JR are incorporated into a dilapidated window inside the contagious diseases ward of the Ellis Island hospital complex, Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014, in New York. The complex, which will be opened to the public for the first time ever on Oct. 1, 2014, stopped operating in 1954. (AP Photo/Julio Cortez)

toward the continued preservation and restoration of the complex.

Jan Calella, president of the nonprofit, said the idea to open the crumbling buildings to the public came up after Superstorm Sandy,

what happens to historic buildings when they don't get the care they deserve." In its day, the complex was the largest U.S. Public Health Service institution. Sick and pregnant immigrants were treated and cured before

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FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
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HOSPITAL	527-4000
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PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
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**Monarch**



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Jet Blue	588-2244
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### pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3345 / 586-6976

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Tel: 587-0002



# Indonesia enlists wasps in war on crop killer

**MARGIE MASON**  
**Associated Press**

**BOGOR, Indonesia (AP)**

— They are the size of a pinhead and don't even pack a sting, but these tiny wasps are cold-blooded killers nonetheless. They work as nature's SWAT team, neutralizing a pest that threatens to destroy one of the developing world's most important staple foods: cassava.

The wasps are being released in Indonesia, the latest country threatened by the mealybug. It's a chalky white insect shaped like a pill that's been making its way across Southeast Asia's fields for the past six years. The pest first appeared in Indonesia in 2010. Bogor on the outskirts of Indonesia's capital Jakarta was ground zero.

But unlike in Thailand, where infestations reached some 250,000 hectares (618,000 acres) of crops grown mostly as part of a huge export business, cassava in Indonesia is a vital local food source second only to rice. That makes the mealybug a serious threat to food security in Indonesia, which already has one of the region's highest child malnutrition rates.

The parasitic wasps, or *Anagyrus lopezi*, need the mealybug to survive. Females lay their eggs inside the insect and as the larvae grow, they eat the bug from the inside out, slowly killing it until there's nothing left but its mummified shell.

On Wednesday, scientists put 3,000 wasps into a secure tent-like habitat in an affected field in Bogor. They will be monitored to see how well they handle

local conditions as they multiply to an expected 450,000 within a month. Once a government permit is obtained, the wasps can be released into the wild to start their relentless killing spree.

It's unclear how much damage mealybugs have already caused to Indonesia's crops, but infestations have been reported on the main cassava-growing island of Java and in parts of Sumatra, said Kris Wyckhuys, an entomologist at the Colombia-based Inter-

more than 80 percent of a harvest by sucking the plant's sap until it withers and dies.

"It is entering into areas where it is expected to cause the biggest yield impact and the biggest impact on food security and on cassava-related livelihoods," Wyckhuys said. Cassava farmer Wahyu Hidayat said the pests hit about three hectares of his five hectare crop four years ago. The leaves started shriveling and falling off the plants that grow

source of carbohydrates and provide an array of nutrients. Like the potato, cassava is a versatile starch that's an essential part of daily meals across much of the developing world. In Indonesia it is boiled, fried, made into noodles, crackers and even cakes.

Known elsewhere as manioc, tapioca and yucca, it is also made into livestock feed and used as an ingredient in a variety of products worldwide, ranging from lipstick and artificial sweeteners to paint and

credited with averting famine and saving \$20 billion. Wyckhuys said the wasps have not created any unintended problems within ecosystems since the so called pink mealybugs only eat cassava and the tiny wasps only eat mealybugs. However, he said it's impossible to eradicate all of the pests because the wasps must keep some hosts alive in order to keep from dying out themselves. Mealybugs, or *Phenacoccus manihoti*, are believed to have hitchhiked into



**Pest pink cassava mealybugs are shown in a laboratory at Bogor Agricultural University in Bogor, West Java, Indonesia, Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2014.**

**Associated Press**

national Center for Tropical Agriculture, which is helping to coordinate the release.

He said the idea is to introduce the wasps early in a pre-emptive strike because the pests if left unchecked can destroy

up to four meters tall, and no one had ever seen anything like it. It lowered production from five kilos of cassava from one tree down to two kilos.

"It's really difficult for us," he said, welcoming the government's wasp intervention. "As a traditional farmer, we didn't know how to deal with it."

Indonesia is one of the world's top producers of cassava, planting around 1 million hectares (2.5 million acres) a year, half of which is eaten as a staple food across the sprawling archipelago of 240 million people.

The long roots of the shrub-like plant are a major

glucose IV drips.

Portuguese traders first brought the plant from South America centuries ago, and many of the world's poorest people today depend on it for survival. It grows well in bad soil conditions and doesn't need much water, making it ideal for hot areas hit by drought.

It is especially important in Africa, which suffered a massive mealybug attack in the 1980s. Wasps were first imported there from Paraguay and released across the continent by airplane. The method was effective, wiping out up to 95 percent of the bugs in some areas, and has been

Thailand in 2008, most likely aboard cassava cuttings transported from Africa. But without the wasps to keep them in check, they quickly spread to Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam. Small releases have been conducted within those countries, and the wasps imported in 2009 to Thailand have also slowly migrated into neighboring countries. The wasps have vastly improved the problem in Thailand, the world's largest cassava exporter, but not eliminated it entirely. Several wasp releases are planned in different parts of Indonesia using insects brought from Thailand. □



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In this April 10, 2014 file photo, Hall of Fame Inductee Cat Stevens performs at the 2014 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in New York. Associated Press

## Cat Stevens cancels New York show, blames scalpers

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Cat Stevens is canceling his New York performance just weeks after announcing a six-city tour.

Stevens said on his Facebook page Wednesday that he would not keep the New York engagement because its requirement for paper tickets has led to exorbitant resale prices. Stevens, also known as Yusuf, the name he claimed

after converting to Islam, announced earlier this month that he planned a concert tour behind the blues album he's releasing on Oct. 27. The concerts are his first series of shows in North America since 1976. Stevens says he is a long-time supporter of paperless tickets "and avoiding scalpers," and hopes to return to New York City in the future. □

## Jason Aldean is engaged to Brittany Kerr

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)** — Country star Jason Aldean and former "American Idol" contestant Brittany Kerr are engaged.

The engagement was confirmed Thursday by a publicist for Aldean.

Aldean, 37, filed for divorce from his wife, Jessica, last year. Pictures had surfaced of the singer and Kerr appearing to kiss in a Los Angeles bar.

He is one of country's top-selling male acts, consistently selling out stadiums and arenas. His new album, "Old Boots, New Dirt," will be released Oct. 7.

Aldean and his ex-wife have two daughters, Keeley and Kendyl.



In this June 4, 2014 file photo, country singer Jason Aldean, left, and Brittany Kerr arrive at the CMT Music Awards in Nashville, Tenn.

Associated Press

The engagement was first reported by TMZ. □

## James Franco on work relationship with Scott Haze

**JOHN CARUCCI**  
Associated Press

**TORONTO (AP)** — As James Franco gets set to open his latest film, "The Sound and the Fury," the actor-director likes to think of star Scott Haze as the Robert De Niro or Leonardo DiCaprio to his Martin Scorsese. "Scott is one of my favorite actors. I would call him my De Niro. Umm, I would call him my Leo. He's more my Leo," Franco joked in a joint interview with Haze at this month's Toronto Film Festival.

This marks the third time Haze appears in one of Franco's films, and they will do it again later this year in "Bukowski." De Niro has starred in eight of Scorsese's films, while DiCaprio has worked with him five times.

Franco, who adapted "The Sound and the Fury" from the William Faulkner novel, has found a niche lately working from classic literature.

"Some directors like to create their own materials. Some like to use real events. And some like to adapt books. I am one of those," Franco said. "I just learned that I am a better director when I do that. When I am collaborating on somebody else's work, whether they're a live writer or a dead writer. It pushes me to rise to their level."



In this Sept. 7, 2014 photo, actors James Franco, left, and Scott Haze pose in Toronto, during the Toronto International Film Festival. Franco and Haze star in the film, "The Sound and the Fury." Associated Press

Franco previously covered Faulkner's "As I Lay Dying," and Cormac McCarthy's "Child of God." As in "The Sound and the Fury," Franco also stars in those films, along with Haze.

Haze likes the connection he has with Franco, feeling like he's different than other directors.

"James is an actor and he understands the actor's situation," Haze said. "In 'Child of God,' there's a scene where I lose my arm. He did '127 Hours'; there's that you've-been-here-done-that thing."

"The Sound and the Fury" opens in select theaters on Friday. □

## Spears launches lingerie line, talks new album



In this Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2014 file photo, Britney Spears attends The Intimate by Britney Spears presentation at the New York Public Library in New York. Associated Press

**ZARA ELDRIDGE**  
Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Britney Spears is branching out. After 16 years in the music business and nearly 100 million record sales under her belt, the 32-year-old singer has added "designer" to her busy resume.

The pop star launched her debut collection of lingerie and sleepwear, called "The Intimate Britney Spears," in

London Tuesday night.

The line, which Spears describes as "romantic, feminine and subtle," has been 2 1/2 years in the making.

"It's been a really long process but it's been a lot of fun," said Spears, who says she's become "obsessed" with lingerie.

Spears flew into London to promote the collection during a break in performing at the Planet Holly-

wood Resort and Casino in Las Vegas.

Despite crisscrossing the globe and appearing in the world's most prestigious venues, Spears believes her two-year residency in Vegas is "ideal" and "really grounding" for her two young sons, Sean Preston and Jayden.

"Looking back now and I see how I used to travel around the world and I am like 'oh my god, I must have been out of my mind.' It was really crazy," she said.

Spears' time in Vegas comes to an end in February. In the meantime, she'll also be working on her ninth studio album.

The singer, who recently broke up with boyfriend David Lucado, confirmed that the writing process is underway and the album will include lots of "I hate men and I love men" tracks.

A release date is yet to be announced. □



# Andre 3000 finds a new rhythm in Hendrix biopic

**JAKE COYLE**

**AP Film Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Andre Benjamin was uniquely qualified to play Jimi Hendrix in the film "Jimi: All Is By My Side," and not just because his colorfully cosmic style has long owed something to the '60s icon.

The film, written and directed by "12 Years a Slave" screenwriter John Ridley, is a portrait of Hendrix in 1966 — a then somewhat aimless 24-year-old playing backup guitar — finding himself as a frontman and being elevated by the blues-rock scene of Swinging London. As the often reticent half of hip-hop duo Outkast, Benjamin, too, knows something about the psychology of a performer discovering his onstage swagger.

"I had to grow into being an entertainer and Jimi had to grow into being an entertainer, too," Benjamin said in a recent interview. "I can say from being an entertainer and a star, my very first shows were horrible. The shyness. You're put on stage in front of all of these people, and you're kind of in your head a lot. It takes the confidence of knowing, 'Hey, people dig this.'"

"All Is By My Side," which opens in theaters Friday, eschews the usual cradle-

to-the-grave biopic trajectory, focusing instead on Hendrix's discovery by Linda Keith (Imogen Poots), his formation of The Experience and his breakthrough in a town dominated by the Beatles and Eric Clapton. Made without the cooperation or approval of the Hendrix estate, the independently produced "All Is By My Side" doesn't include any of Hendrix's familiar hits.

"I don't really see the point of just showing people what they already know. I never felt that that was going to impede our ability to tell the story," says Ridley, who won an Oscar for "12 Years a Slave." "We've all seen films before that have had access to artifacts or intellectual property, and they put their best foot forward, but it doesn't necessarily mean that the story's going to be there."

The film is Benjamin's first since the 2008 Will Ferrell comedy "Semi-Pro." He turned down Ridley several times before agreeing to tackle the role, for which he studied with a vocal coach and strove to learn to play guitar left-handed. As a naturally right-handed player, he compares the task to walking backward.

For Benjamin, who dabbled in movies in the '00s

most notably with the Prohibition musical "Idlewild," it's easily his most ambitious acting work. "All Is By My Side" is opening during a kind of crossroads for Benjamin, who has been touring with his Outkast partner, Big Boi, for the first



In this image released by Xlratr Media, Andre Benjamin portrays Jimi Hendrix in the film "Jimi: All Is By My Side."

**Associated Press**

time in years, celebrating the 20th anniversary of their debut album.

It's been nearly a decade since Benjamin put out an album, solo or with Outkast. He's limited himself largely to appearances on the records of others (Frank Ocean, Lil Wayne). Now 39, he's said he'll give up rap when he turns 40.

"I can't say I was gear-

ing up to make this huge acting jump, but if that's the way my life goes, I'm wit it," says Benjamin. "In music, I still write almost every day. I don't know how I feel about it at this age. I always write. But I don't know if I believe in it

enough to want to present it. You have to believe in it to work.

"I really don't know what's going on," he adds. "I'm kind of in a limbo place." Ridley flew to Atlanta to meet with Benjamin, who had been sought for other Hendrix films.

"Being around him for about five or 10 minutes you realize that he really is

the right person to try to attempt something like this," says Ridley, who's currently prepping a series for ABC, "American Crime." "He's very intellectually curious. He's very much a true artist. He's very much a music historian."

In order to capture Hendrix's far-out, mellow voice, Ridley had Benjamin stay in character during production: "John basically ordered the set not to talk to me unless I was in Hendrix's voice so I could always be in it," says Benjamin.

The film also shows Hendrix's less savory side, including a scene in which he strikes girlfriend Kathy Etchingham with a phone — an incident Etchingham has resolutely denied ever happened. Ridley stands by the depiction as accurate to other viewpoints. Either way, it's the kind of scene that surely wouldn't have made it into an authorized biopic. (Another, estate-endorsed project is in development, with Anthony Mackie to star as Hendrix.) "The minute that you cede editorial control to any one person or any one entity, it goes from being an attempt at an honest story to propaganda," says Ridley. "Anybody's life story deserves a little better than that." □



Fashion Designer Victoria Beckham speaks during a news conference after she is named an United Nation's Goodwill Ambassador during the 69th U.N. General Assembly at U.N. headquarters, Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014.

**Associated Press**

**GREGORY KATZ**

**Associated Press**

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — It's probably time to say goodbye to Posh Spice for good — Victoria Beckham is older now, and she wants to

help others, not sing teen anthems.

The fashion designer and former Spice Girl said at United Nations headquarters Thursday that she had to turn 40 before she real-

## Victoria Beckham to help U.N. fight AIDS

ized she has an obligation to others — something she hopes to do as a newly named International Goodwill Ambassador for the UNAIDS program.

"It's only now that I realize I have to step forward and do whatever it is that I can do," she said, crediting a recent fact-finding tour to HIV clinics in Cape Town, South Africa for inspiring her to do more to prevent the spread of the deadly disease.

"It was life changing and it made me realize that I can speak on behalf of these women," she said of the people she met in clinics

there.

She said she is determined to do all she can to help prevent children from being born with the AIDS virus.

"Babies should not be born with HIV. We can stop that, we're very, very close to stopping that, which is why I'm sitting here now. We can't give up. We're so close. I'm a woman, and a mother, and I want to reach out and help," said Beckham, who is married to retired soccer star David Beckham.

It was unusual for the often reclusive Beckham to meet with reporters and take questions. She spoke with

rare passion about her desire to have an impact, and laughed off the suggestion from one journalist that she wanted to be "England's answer to Angelina Jolie," the prominent actress who has done extensive work as a U.N. representative.

"I'm not trying to be anyone other than myself," Beckham said. "I want to learn what I can do."

Executive Director Michel Sidibe said he welcomed Beckham's commitment.

"I dream of a generation free from HIV and I know that Victoria's support will help us to achieve this shared goal," he said. □



# Those Lazy Jobless



**PAUL KRUGMAN**  
© 2014 New York Times

Last week John Boehner, the speaker of the House, explained to an audience at the American Enterprise Institute what's holding back employment in America: laziness. People, he said, have "this idea" that "I really don't have to work. I don't really want to do this. I think I'd rather just sit around." Holy 47 percent, Batman!

It's hardly the first time a prominent conservative has said something along these lines. Ever since a financial crisis plunged us into recession it has been a nonstop refrain on the right that the unemployed aren't trying hard enough, that they are taking it easy thanks to generous unemployment benefits, which are constantly characterized as "paying people not to work." And the urge to blame the victims of a depressed economy has proved impervious to logic and evidence.

But it's still amazing - and revealing - to hear this line being repeated now. For the blame-the-victim crowd has gotten everything it wanted: Benefits, especially for the long-term unemployed, have been slashed or eliminated. So now we have rants against the bums on welfare when they aren't bums - they never were - and there's no welfare. Why?

First things first: I don't know how many people realize just how successful the campaign against any kind of relief for those who can't find jobs has been. But it's a striking picture. The job market has improved lately, but there are still almost 3 million Americans who have been out of work for more than six months, the usual maximum duration of unemployment insurance. That's nearly three times the pre-recession total. Yet extended benefits for the long-term unemployed have been eliminated - and in some states the duration of benefits has been slashed even further. The result is that most of the unemployed have been cut off. Only 26 percent of jobless Americans are receiving any kind of unemployment benefit, the lowest level in many decades. The total value of unemployment benefits is less than 0.25 percent of GDP, half what it was in 2003, when the unemployment rate was roughly the same as it is now. It's not hyperbole to say that America has abandoned its out-of-work citizens.

Strange to say, this outbreak of anti-compassionate conservatism hasn't produced a job surge. In fact, the whole proposition that cruelty is the key to prosperity hasn't been faring too well lately. Last week Nathan Deal, the Republican governor of Georgia, complained that many states with Republican governors have seen a rise in unemployment and suggested that the feds were cooking the books. But maybe the right's preferred policies don't work? That is, however, a topic for another column. My question for today is instead one of psychology and politics: Why is there so much animus against the unemployed, such a strong conviction that they're getting away with something, at a time when they're actually being treated with unprecedented harshness?

Now, as anyone who has studied British policy during the Irish famine knows, self-righteous cruelty toward the victims of disaster, especially when the disaster goes on for an extended period, is common in history. Still, Republicans haven't always been like this. In the 1930s they denounced the New Deal and called for free-market solutions - but when Alf Landon accepted the 1936 presidential nomination, he also emphasized the "plain duty" of "caring for the unemployed until recovery is attained." Can you imagine hearing anything similar from today's GOP?

Is it race? That's always a hypothesis worth considering in American politics. It's true that most of the unemployed are white, and they make up an even larger share of those receiving unemployment benefits. But conservatives may not know this, treating the unemployed as part of a vaguely defined, dark-skinned crowd of "takers."

My guess, however, is that it's mainly about the closed information loop of the modern right. In a nation where the Republican base gets what it thinks are facts from Fox News and Rush Limbaugh, where the party's elite gets what it imagines to be policy analysis from the American Enterprise Institute or the Heritage Foundation, the right lives in its own intellectual universe, aware of neither the reality of unemployment nor what life is like for the jobless. You might think that personal experience - almost everyone has acquaintances or relatives who can't find work - would still break through, but apparently not. Whatever the explanation, Boehner was clearly saying what he and everyone around him really thinks, what they say to each other when they don't expect others to hear. Some conservatives have been trying to reinvent their image, professing sympathy for the less fortunate. But what their party really believes is that if you're poor or unemployed, it's your own fault. □



## Unraveling? Snap Out of It



**DAVID BROOKS**  
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I've been living in and visiting New York for almost a half-century now. One thought occurs as I walk around these days: The city has never been better. There has never been a time when there were so many interesting places to visit, shop and eat, when the rivers and the parks were so beautiful, when there were so many vibrant neighborhoods across all boroughs, with immigrants and hipsters and new businesses and experimental schools. I suppose New York isn't as artistically or intellectually rich as it was in the 1940s and 1950s, but daily life is immeasurably better.

And when I think about the 15 or 20 largest American cities, the same thought applies. Compared with all past periods, American cities and suburbs are sweeter and more interesting places. Of course there are the problems of inequality and poverty that we all know about, but there hasn't been a time in American history when so many global cultures percolated in the mainstream, when there was so much tolerance for diverse ethnicities, lifestyles and the complex directions of the heart, when there was so little tolerance for disorder, domestic violence and prejudice.

Widening the lens, we're living in an era with the greatest reduction in global poverty ever - across Asia and Africa. We're

seeing a decline in civil wars and warfare generally.

The scope of the problems we face are way below historic averages. We face nothing like the slavery fights of the 1860s, the brutality of child labor and industrialization of the 1880s, or a civilization-threatening crisis like World War I, the Great Depression, World War II or the Cold War. Even next to the 1970s - which witnessed Watergate, stagflation, social decay and rising crime - we are living in a golden age.

Our global enemies are not exactly impressive. We have the Islamic State, a bunch of barbarians riding around in pickup trucks, and President Vladimir Putin of Russia, a lone thug sitting atop a failing regime. These folks thrive only because of the failed states and vacuums around them.

I mention all of this because of the despondency and passivity and talk of unraveling that floated around this summer. Now there is a mood of pessimism and fatalism evident in the polls and in conversations - a lack of faith in ourselves.

It's important in times like these to step back and get clarity. The truest thing to say is this: We are living in an amazingly fortunate time. But we also happen to be living during a leadership crisis, and a time when few people have faith in elites to govern from the top. We live in a vibrant society that is not being led.

We don't suffer from an abuse of power as much as a nonuse of power. It's been years since a major piece of legislation was passed, and there's little prospect that one will get passed in the next two.

This leadership crisis is eminently solvable. First, we need to get over the childish notion that we don't need a responsible leadership class, that power can be wielded directly by the people. The United States was governed best when it was governed by a porous, self-conscious and

responsible elite - during the American Revolution, for example, or during and after World War II. Karl Marx and Ted Cruz may believe that power can be wielded directly by the masses, but this has almost never happened historically.

Second, the elite we do have has to acknowledge that privilege imposes duties. Wealthy people have an obligation to try to follow a code of seemliness. No luxury cars for college-age kids. No private jet/ski weekends. Live a lifestyle that is more integrated into middle-class America than the one you can actually afford. Strike a blow for social cohesion.

Powerful people might follow a code of public spiritedness. That means restraining your partisan passions and parochial interests for the sake of domestic tranquility. Re-establish the lines between public service and private enrichment.

Third, discredit political bigotry. In 1960, 5 percent of Republicans and 4 percent of Democrats said they would be displeased if their children married someone of the opposite party. By 2010, Cass Sunstein observes, those numbers had jumped to 49 percent and 33 percent. How small-minded can you get?

Fourth, put congressional reform atop the national agenda. More states could have open primaries. Nonpartisan commissions could draw district lines. Presidential nominees should get an up-or-down vote within 90 days. Rep. Jim Cooper of Tennessee suggests that if Congress doesn't pass a budget or annual spending bills on time, then members don't get paid.

Politics is generally the same old tasks. Rejuvenating ailing institutions. Fighting barbarians to preserve world order. Today is nothing new. Instead of sliding into fatalism, it might be a good idea to address our problems without exaggerating our plight. □



# Italy Preservation Plan Takes On Acrid Undertones

**GAIA PIANIGIANI**

© 2014 New York Times

**MONTALCINO, Italy** - Its gentle sloping hills, olive groves, cypresses and sunflower fields have made Tuscany a muse to writers and artists for centuries. But the region is equally renowned for its verdant vineyards and their wines, some of the most prized in Italy and the world.

So when Tuscany's regional government recently approved a new rural preservation plan, saying that too many vines had been planted and warning of the risks of soil erosion, winemakers did not take it lightly. In fact, the plan has set off something of a war here.

"We perceive it as a strong threat," said Patrizio Cencioni, producer of the Brunello wine "Capanna" in Montalcino and a third-generation winemaker. "Under the new plan, certain fields, like those lying on clay, could become off-limits to us." Cencioni pointed to a nearby ochre-colored slope. "You see that?" he said. "I asked for the permits to plant a Sangiovese vineyard there a month ago. I don't know what is going to happen now."

Next week, wine producers will ask for parts of the plan to be scrapped, a move likely to open a new chapter in the heated debate. "We do obey the laws," Cencioni said. "But we won't give up. People come to Montalcino for the landscape that our work has contributed to create." Only about 8 percent of Tuscany's agricultural land is planted with vines. But regional authorities fear the impact of high-intensity vine cultivation for both its possible pollution from fertilizer and pesticide runoff and its potentially destabilizing effect on the region's clay, sandstone and limestone hillsides, which help give wines their special flavor but are also especially delicate.

The new plan encourages growers to go back to pastures and fields when possible, and discourages

the creation of new vineyards in some areas. It also recommends a return to terracing to avoid the vertical rows of vines down hillsides that allow tractors and people to pass more easily but may contribute to landslides - an increasing problem in a number of winegrowing regions.

Last month, a flood in the northern region of Veneto claimed four lives, and crit-

wine production became the most valuable agricultural activity, and many of the farmers who did not migrate to the cities, unlike so many others, stayed because of the business.

Fabrizio Bindocci, 59, president of the consortium of Brunello producers, is old enough to remember when the region was impoverished, and he insists that it is in the interest of the grow-

to safeguard the region's heritage and enhance its sustainability and to better define the national laws on landscape protection, some dating back to the 1920s.

Tuscany is one of the first regions in Italy to have a database of protected areas with clear borders and regulations. Those rules used to be so vague that they spawned a tangle of inter-

onerous bureaucracy. "The so-called guidelines leave room for any kind of interpretation by the local municipalities," Bindocci protested from his vineyards, where the harvest was delayed this year because of rains.

"We spend the entire year trying to work as well as we can," he said, "acting with or against the force of climate and nature that can



**A tractor hauls grapes after a morning harvest at the wine farm, Il Poggione, in Montalcino, Italy, part of the Tuscany region. A fierce debate has developed between Tuscany's regional government and local winemakers after the approval of a new rural preservation plan, which discourages the creation of new vineyards in some areas.**

(Paolo Marchetti/The New York Times)

ics pointed to the expanding vineyards of Prosecco as having destabilized steep slopes and inhibited their ability to absorb heavy rainfall.

Winegrowers here, who pride themselves on being sentinels of the land, fear that the push for new regulations not only threatens their land's recent profitability but also is an attempt to turn back the clock.

While today the wines they produce are a \$1.5 billion industry, it was not long ago - even as late as the 1960s - that the families who lived here were mostly sharecroppers or subsistence farmers. Over the years,

ers to preserve the land.

"We have vineyards with olive trees in between, we have a channel for the water at the bottom of every slope, we breed cows and clean up the countryside," said Bindocci, general director of Il Poggione, a vineyard that has belonged to the same family since the 1890s. "We care because we live off of this. This place is our identity."

Enrico Rossi, 56, president of the Tuscany region, said that he, too, could remember the old days, but added that his government had no intention of restoring an ancient Tuscan landscape. The goal, he explained, was

pretations and paradoxical enforcement at the provincial or municipal level, like allowing villas to be built on otherwise undisturbed beaches, while requiring the owner of a warehouse, in one notorious case, to apply for special approval to create an indoor window.

"We are applying and simplifying the national laws that already existed," Rossi said. "This is transparency. It's a clarification, not a restriction or a vexation."

Such words have done little to reassure winegrowers, who fear the recommendations will confront them with yet another layer of

transform an excellent year into a good one. Now we have to battle with new norms, too?" If it is any consolation, the debate over what kind of vineyards are most compatible with the environment has been taking place here since 1300, said Anna Marson, a council member who was the architect of the regional plan. Indeed, in his frescoes from the 1330s known as the "Allegory of Good and Bad Government," Ambrogio Lorenzetti depicted the Tuscan countryside with vines and olive trees circling the hills on terracing, trees, fields, cavaliers on horses and scarce housing. □